MEN'S FOLIO

SEPTEMBER 2020

KNOCKOUT

iKON

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DIOR

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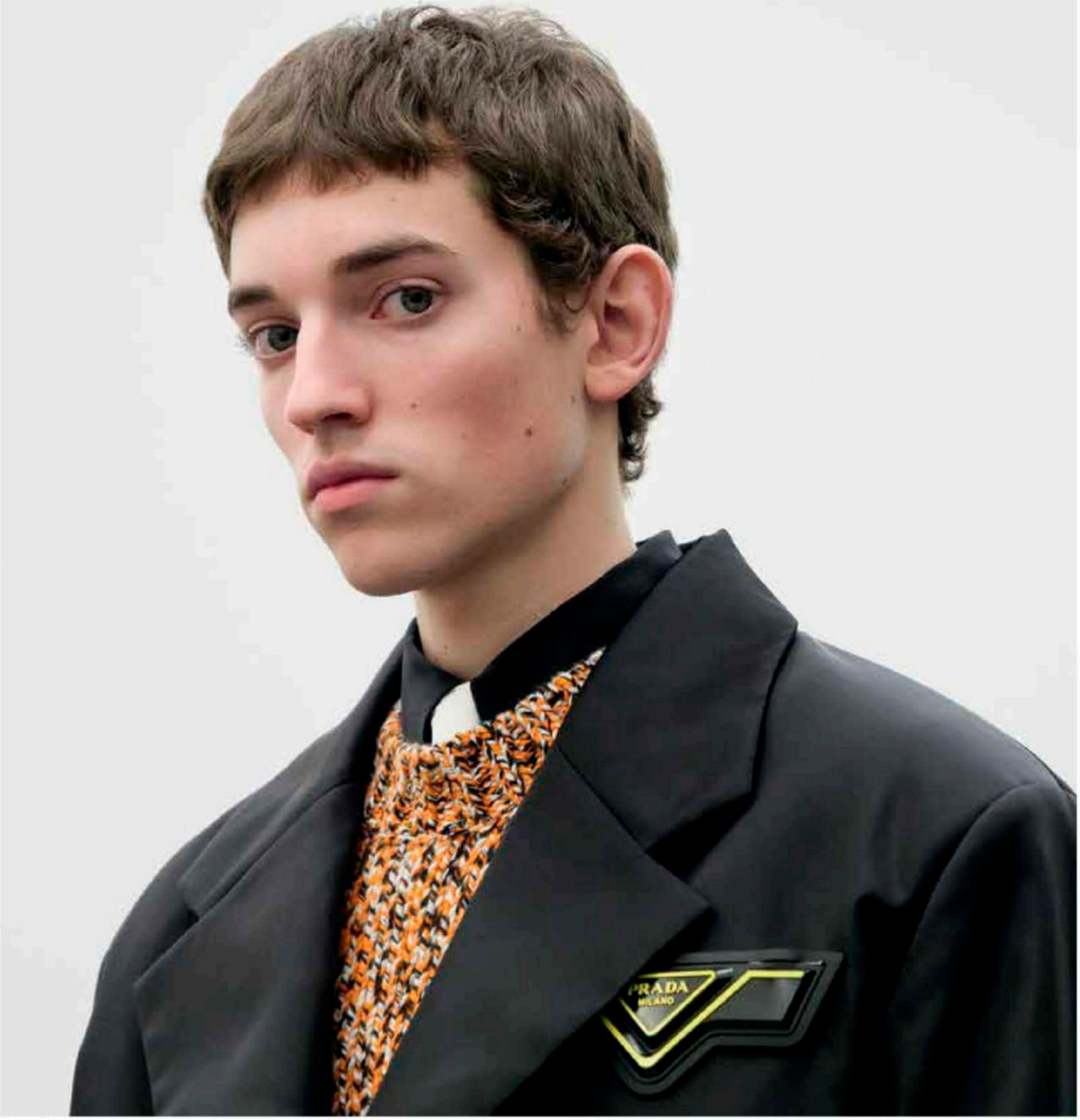
WORN BY ROMAN FIRONOV
AUTHOR: MIUCCIA PRADA



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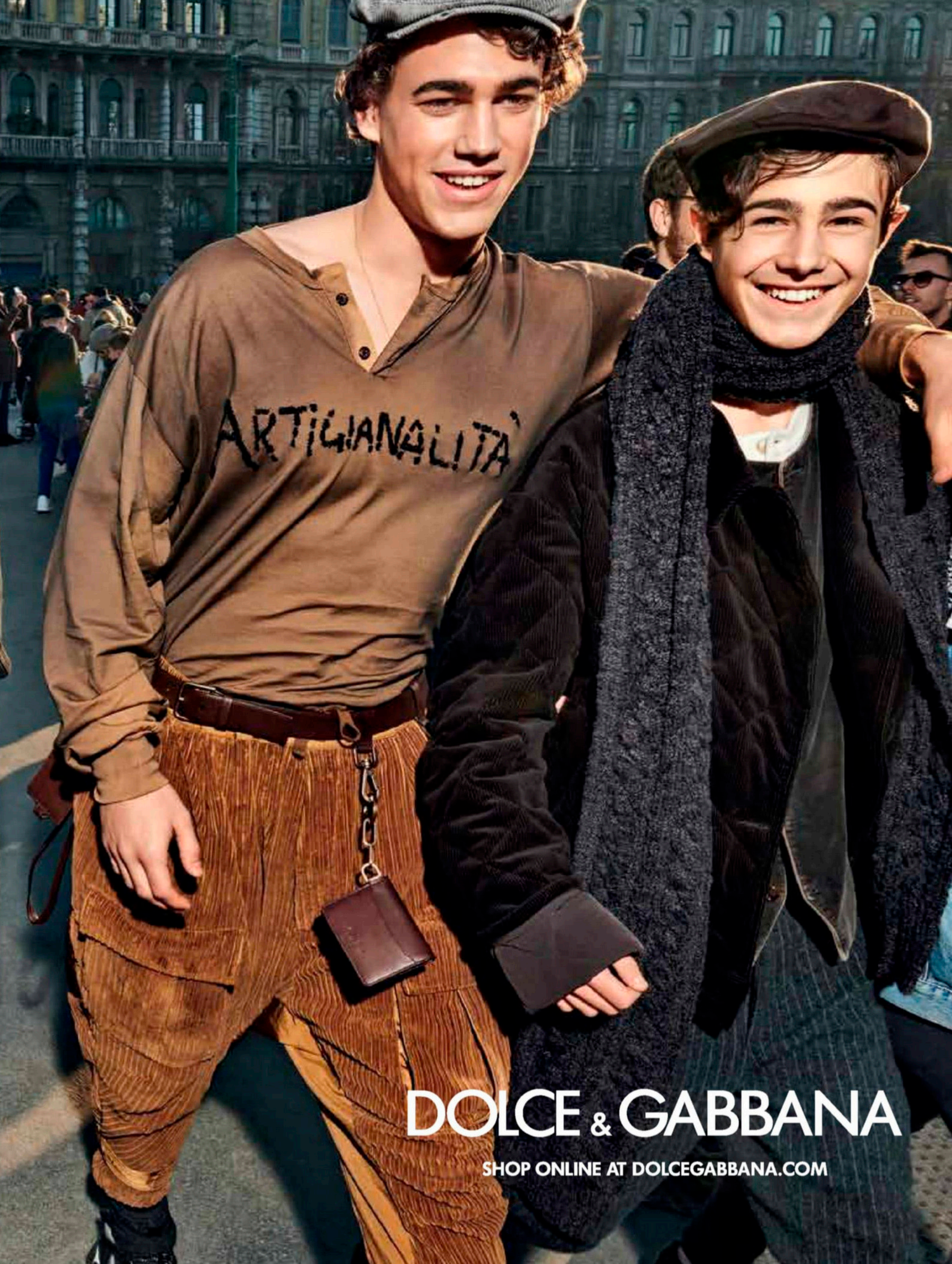
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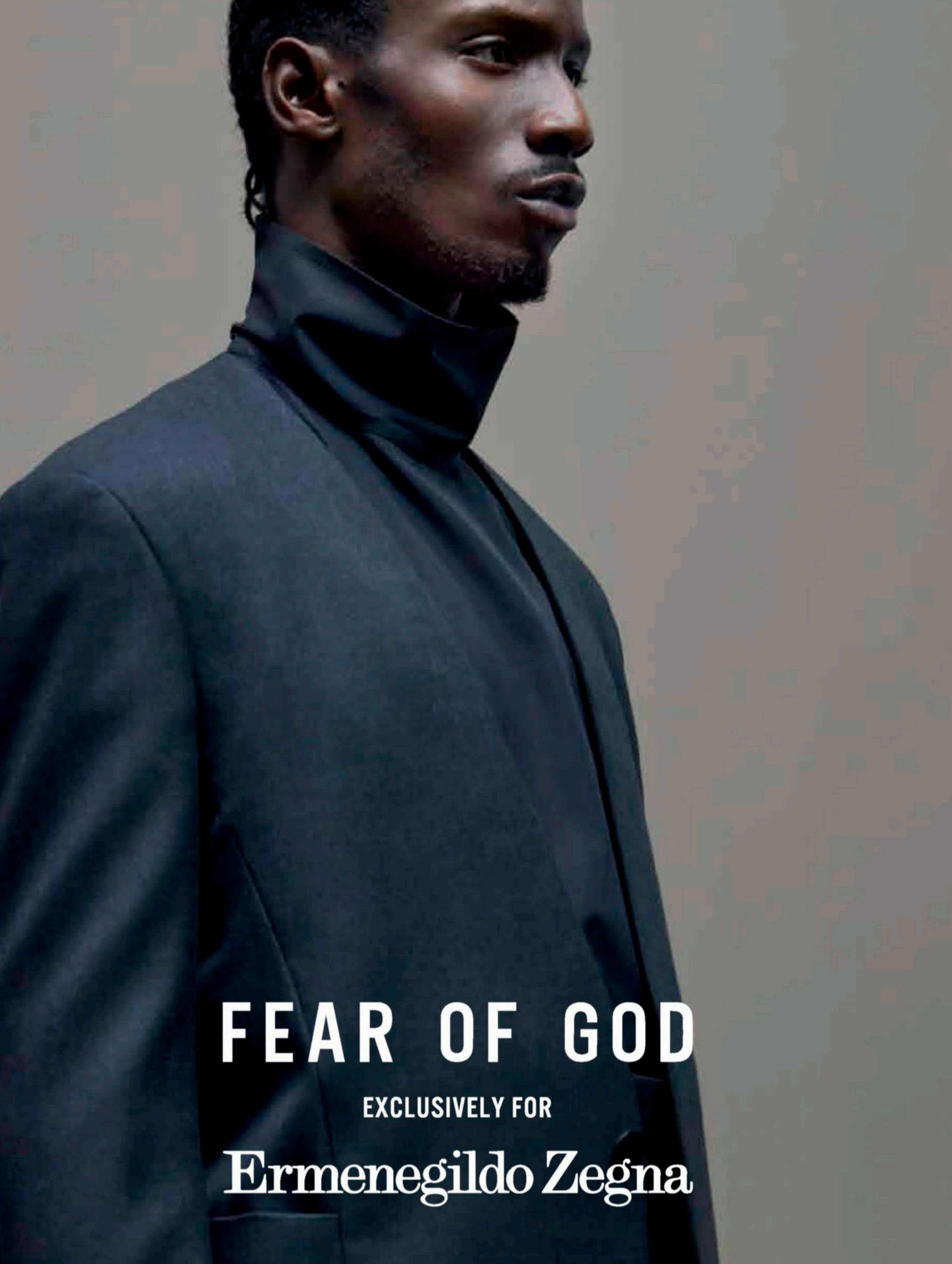
FEAR OF GOD
EXCLUSIVELY FOR
Ermenegildo Zegna

FOLIO
KNOCKOUT

FOLIO
KNOCKOUT

Photography Kim Heejune
Styling Seo Gayoung
Artiste Bobby
Outfit Gucci

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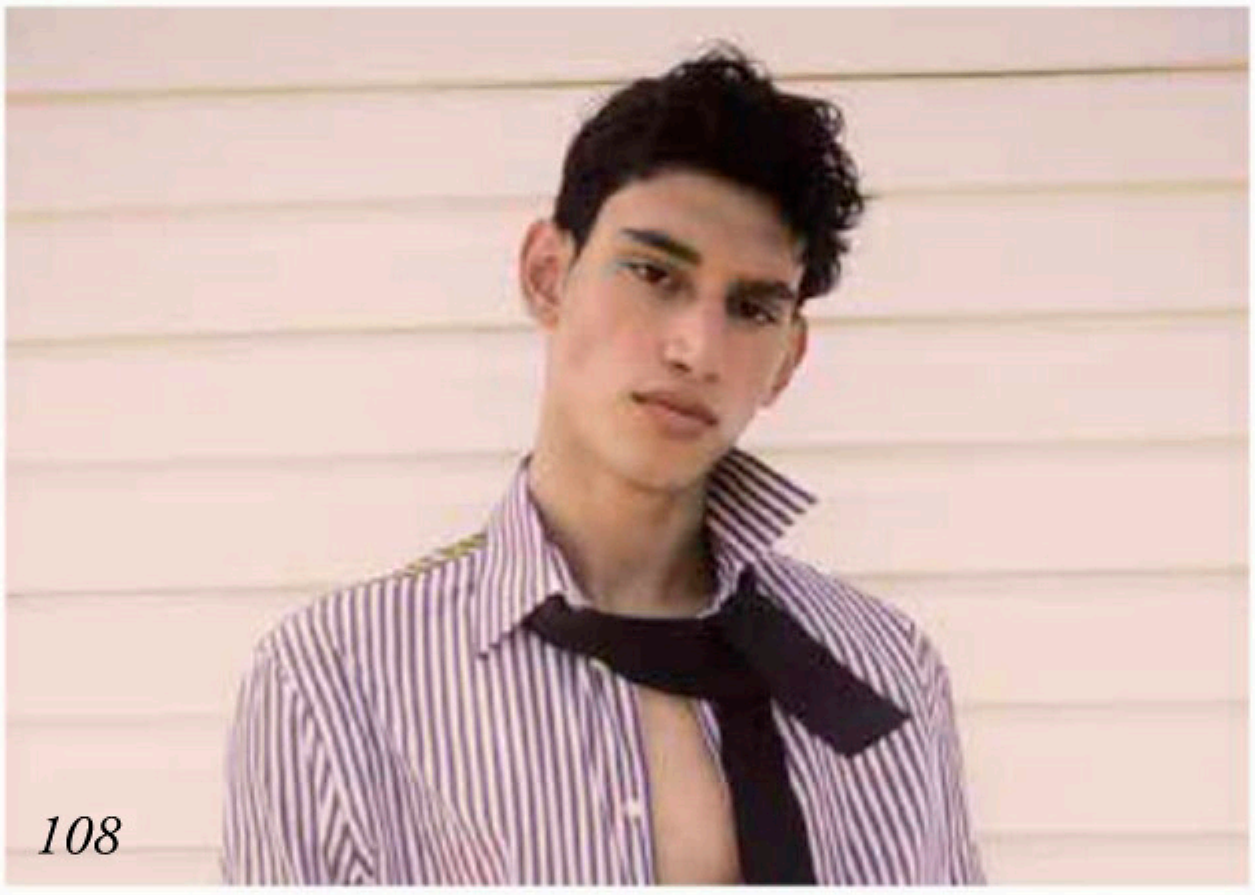

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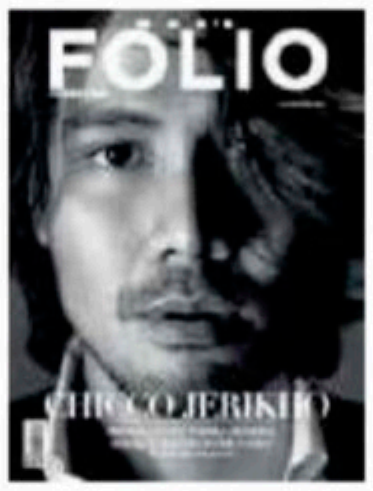

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Following the last two issues, creative veterans raised a question to me — "is Men's Folio undergoing a revamp?" Admittedly, Men's Folio has undertaken more native campaigns during these challenging times, where the diverse creative talents of the team came through — instead of a singular direction by me.

I was genuinely taken aback by the question because firstly, it was not an intended team decision and secondly, I was concerned if the "changes" were being appreciated or a cause for worry — especially when a collective of veterans was asking about it. Thankfully, it was the former.

I would like to believe they served as essential preconditions for this Knockout issue. Our seniors found Men's Folio aesthetically-refreshed manifold and the topics covered to be more inclusive yet in-depth.

This is not a pat on our own backs but instead, affirmation on the endeavours of Men's Folio in the appreciation of Asian talents — especially that of our local ones. At Men's Folio, there is no singular definition for being an Asian talent. It is tantamount for every feature we work on to be racially diverse — through the various spreads and the personalities we worked with in the "Features Profiles" section. Digital editor, Bryan Goh even worked on a grooming Fall/Winter '20 report on page 118, featuring a diverse cast to highlight each individual's unique needs.

To that extent, the Men's Folio focus on talent is also multifold. From international Asian celebrities — iKON Bobby on the cover story (page 66) — to local highlights spanning professional athletes (page 62), successful career men (page 60) and the creative arena (dancers on page 30), Men's Folio has never dimmed the light on men who give their best at what they do and will continue to be here to celebrate every success in their journey.

Hence, like the theme explicitly mentions, this is perhaps the most Knockout September issue. The Men's Folio team has stretched our limits to bring you a relevant and comprehensive Fall/Winter '20 trend report akin to unearthing a time capsule (on page 34), new releases of watches with a small visually stunning detail (page 48), 50 pages of fashion visuals (from page 76) and an array of lifestyle features — the one dish to keep coming back for (page 134), spirits for one's own home bar (page 136) and a physical and wellness guide by EVOLVE Fight Team athlete Amir Khan (page 138).

The Men's Folio team's belief, passion and love for our DNA share sentiments with contributor, Fang Wei Low's feelings towards shophouse conversation (page 58) — "My muse, she not only inspires me to reimagine how Singapore can be, but also grounds me within my community."

Wilson

Wilson Lim
Editor-in-Chief

LAB SERIES

HYDRATION ON IMPACT

72-HOUR PEAK PERFORMANCE
FOR HEALTHY-LOOKING SKIN

CALVYN JUSTUS
OLYMPIC SWIMMER
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SKINCARE FOR MEN
RESCUE WATER GEL CLEANSER
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Lotion Hydratante Vitalité
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SKINCARE FOR MEN
RESCUE WATER EMULSION
Émulsion Hydratante
PLUS HYDRA₃O TECHNOLOGY™
MOISTURIZE

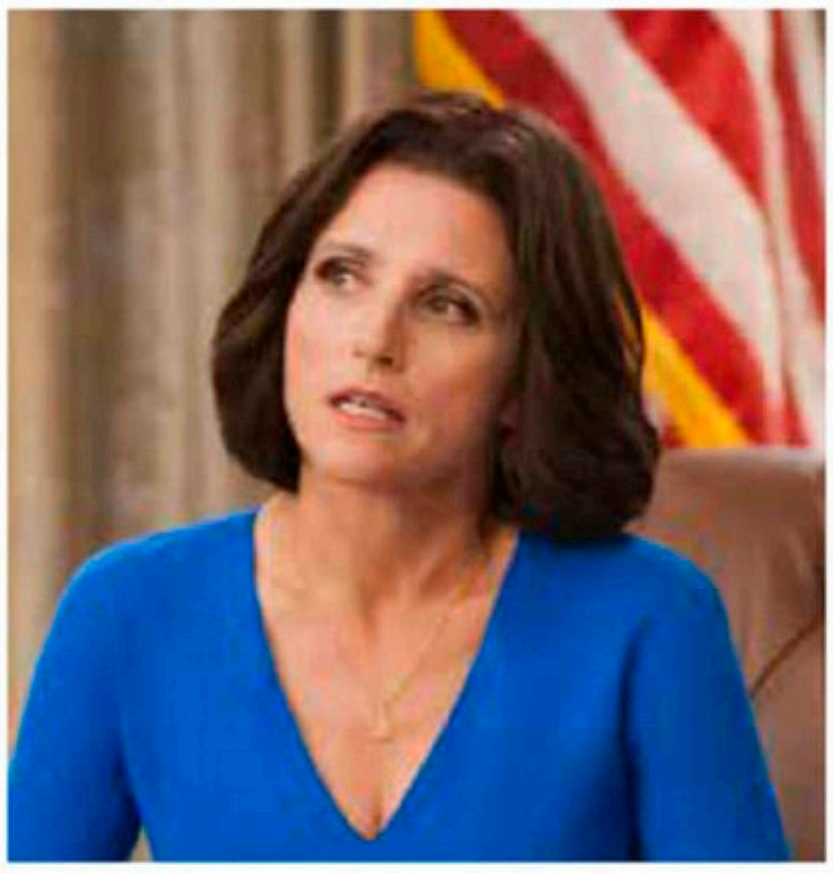
FINISHING BLOW

When push comes to shove, the Men's Folio team is ready with their very own knockout phrases.

Wilson Lim

Editor-in-Chief

"Your face is…" — the ultimate eye-for-an-eye to reflect an insult, has Wilson shutting down many meaningless "discussions". Take for example when someone disses his favourite cronut with "this creation is unsavoury", Wilson's comeback would be "your face is unsavoury".



Bryan Goh

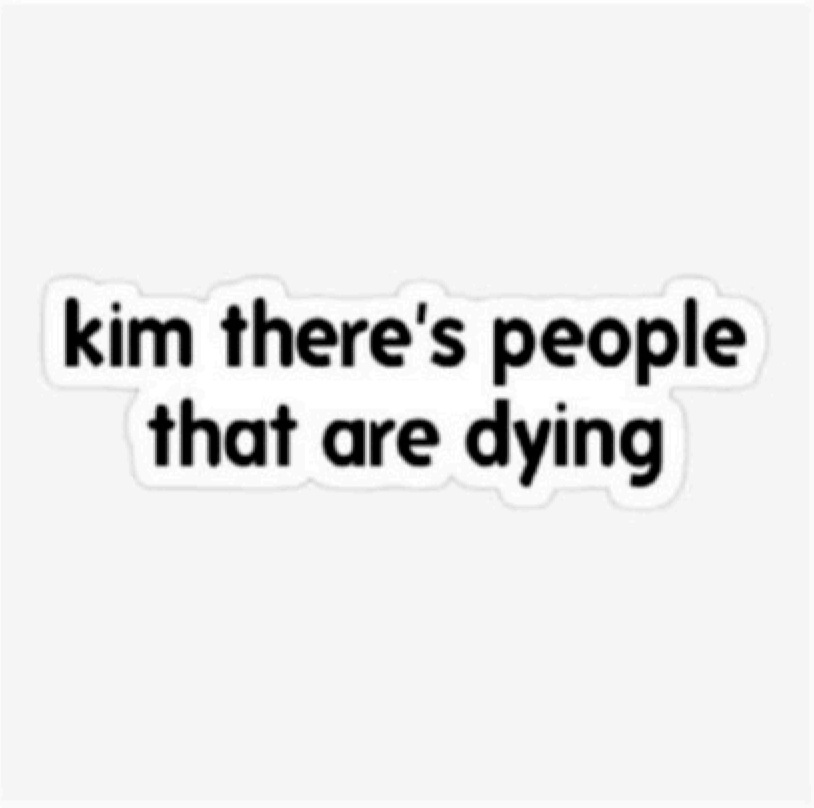
Digital Editor

"Talking to you is like using a condom filled with fire ants; painful, excruciating and completely unnecessary" — literally Bryan's favourite phrase to use when meetings drag beyond 20 minutes and the speaker has started to drone on.

Asaph Low

Associate Watch & Features Editor

Asaph would say he is usually engaged in conversations but when it is time to bail, he will whip out his trump card — a quizzical look, simple shrug and "er... okay" — which pretty much does the job for him. Rather mild but definitely effective.

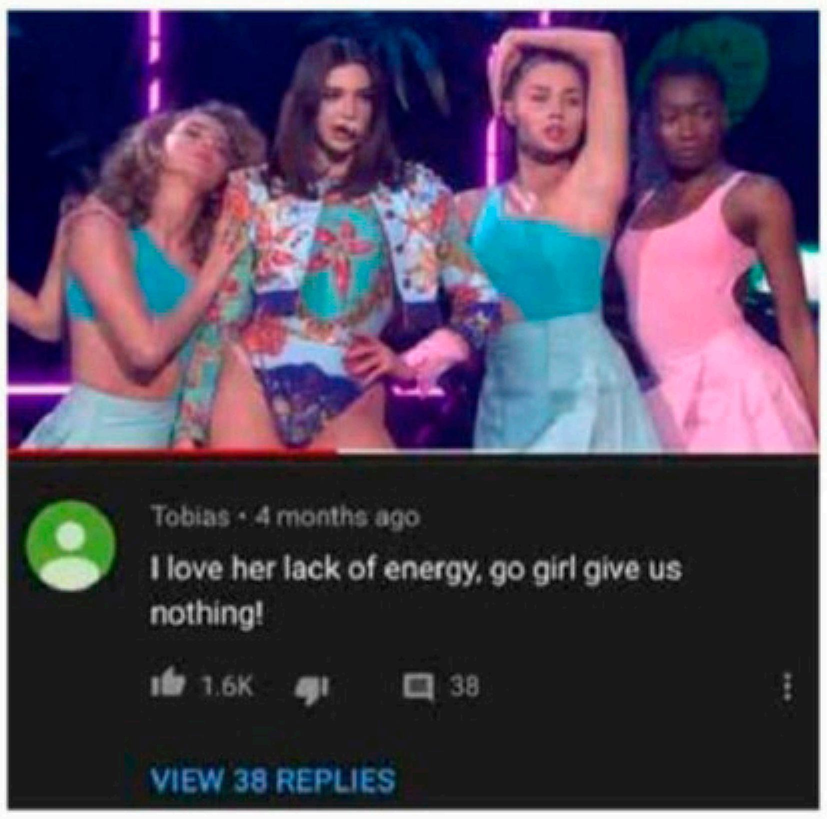


kim there's people
that are dying

Izwan Abdullah

Associate Art Director

"Kim, there's people that are dying" is Izwan's new favourite go-to. Thanks Kourtney.



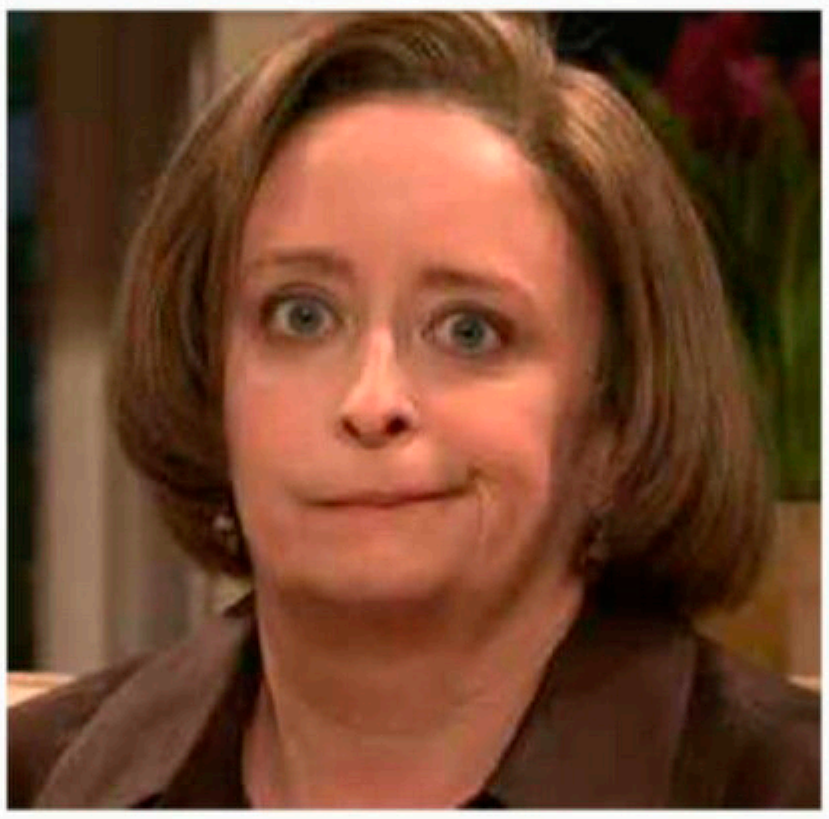
Tobias · 4 months ago

I love her lack of energy, go girl give us nothing!

Manfred Lu

Fashion Stylist & Writer

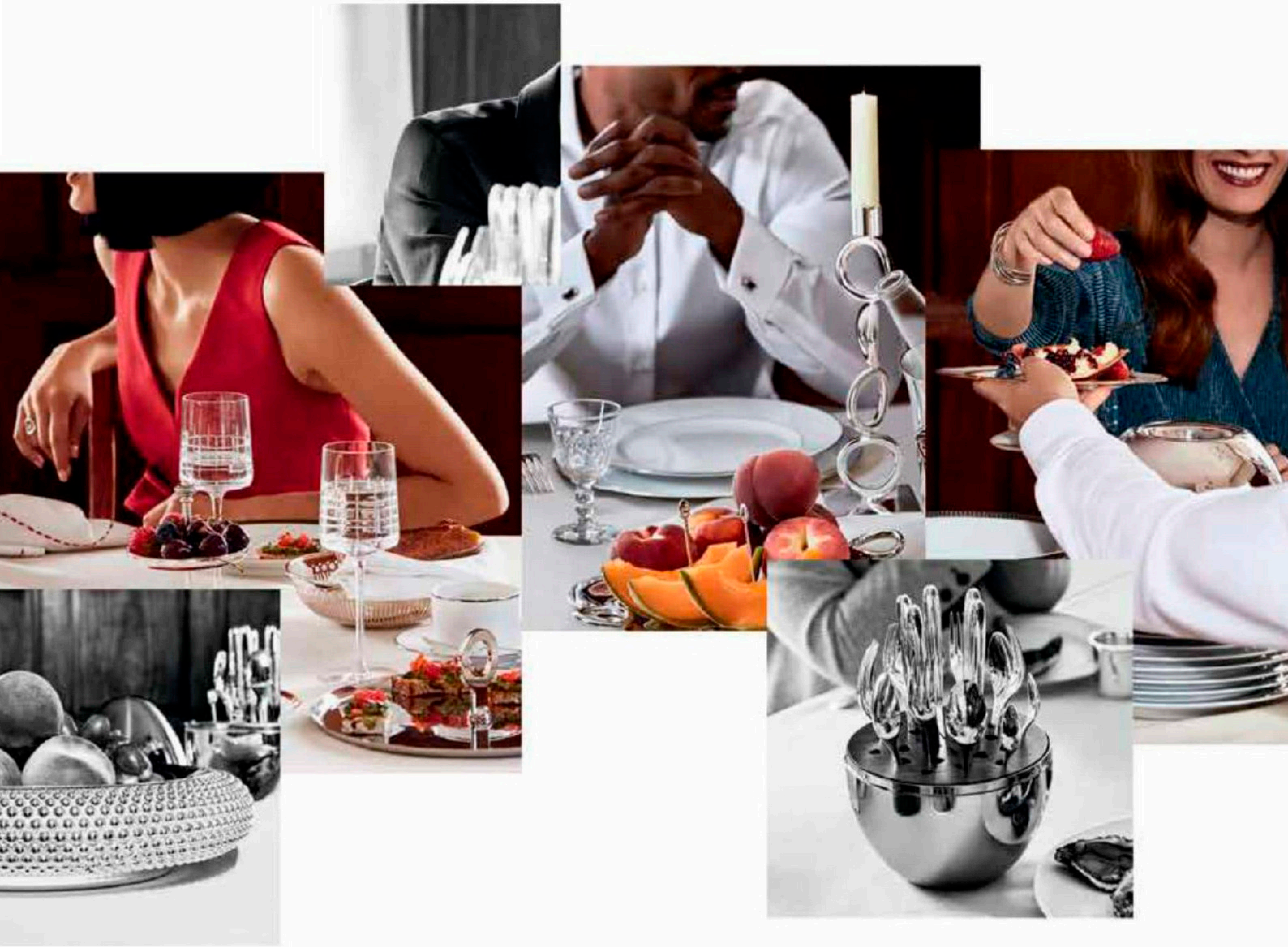
"Go girl, give us nothing!" is either an insult to Manfred or to his onlookers.



Jaya Khidir

Art Assistant

"There's no need to be so excited" is Jaya's deadpan response to unnecessary dramatics in the room.



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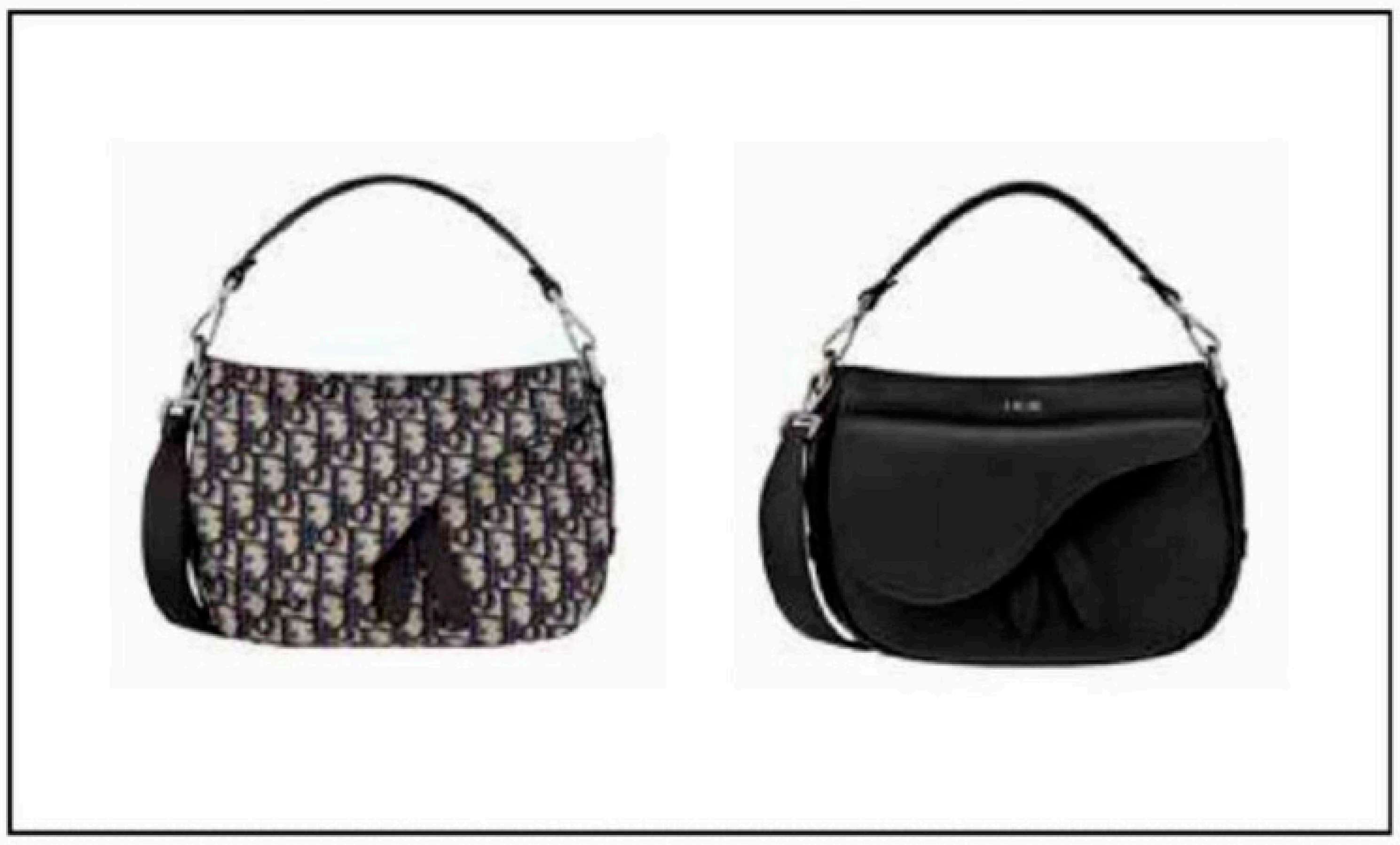
BUZZ WORLD

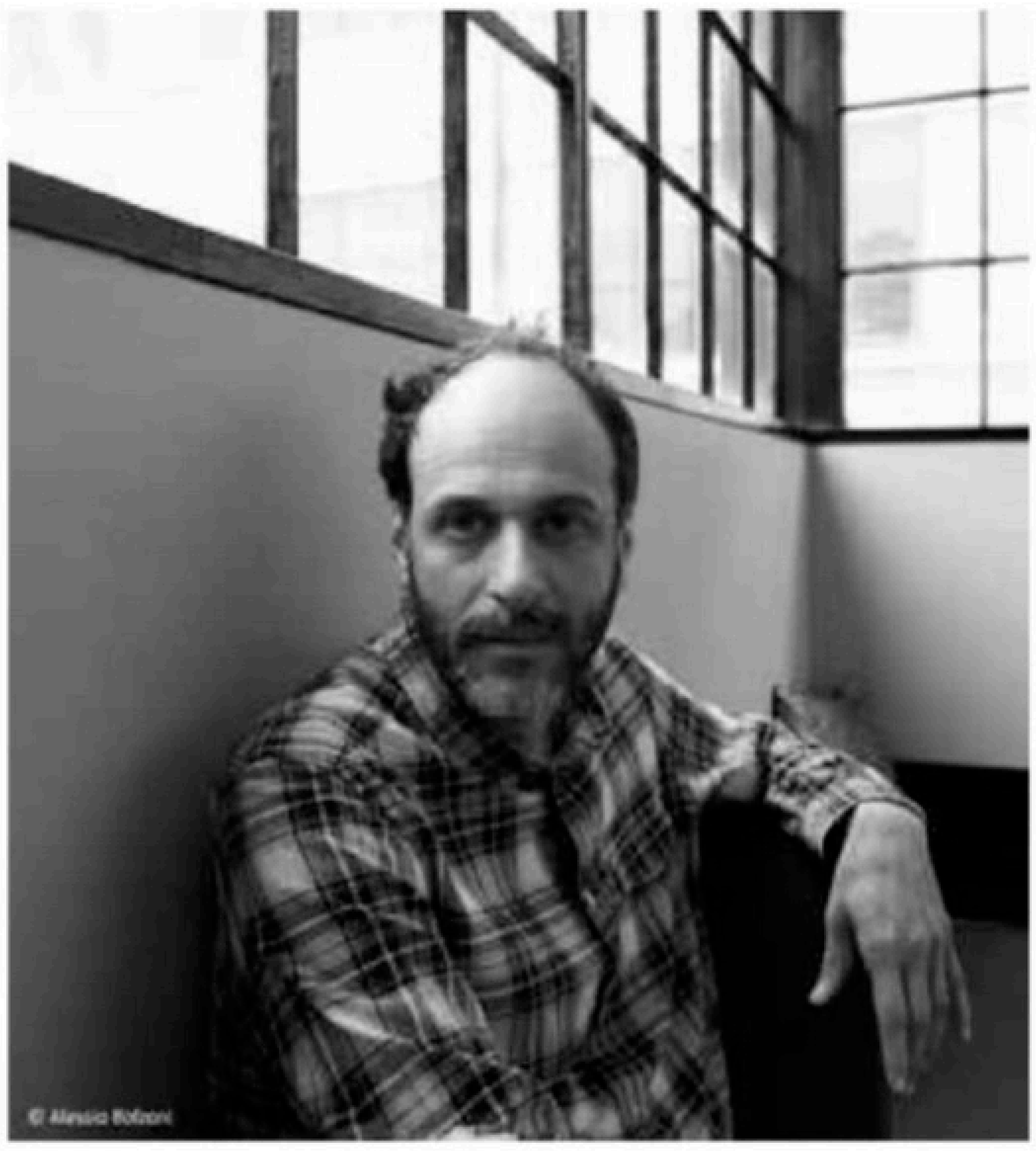
Breaking through the noise to deliver the full scoop on the latest fashion adventures.

by Manfred Lu

SUBTLE MODERNITY

Artistic director of Dior Men, Kim Jones has put his own spin to the house codes ever since his tenure in 2017. Since then, what was traditionally known as "women's purses or clutches" have since become hit staples for the house's menswear arena. That understanding for modernity has never stopped and for Fall/Winter '20, the Soft Saddle has been reshaped into a hobo version that encompasses the masculine allure and couture touch that comes with Jones's flair. Dressed in the distinctive Dior Oblique motif, delicate embroidery is adorned in its design alongside a miniature version for those who are seeking a more compact option.





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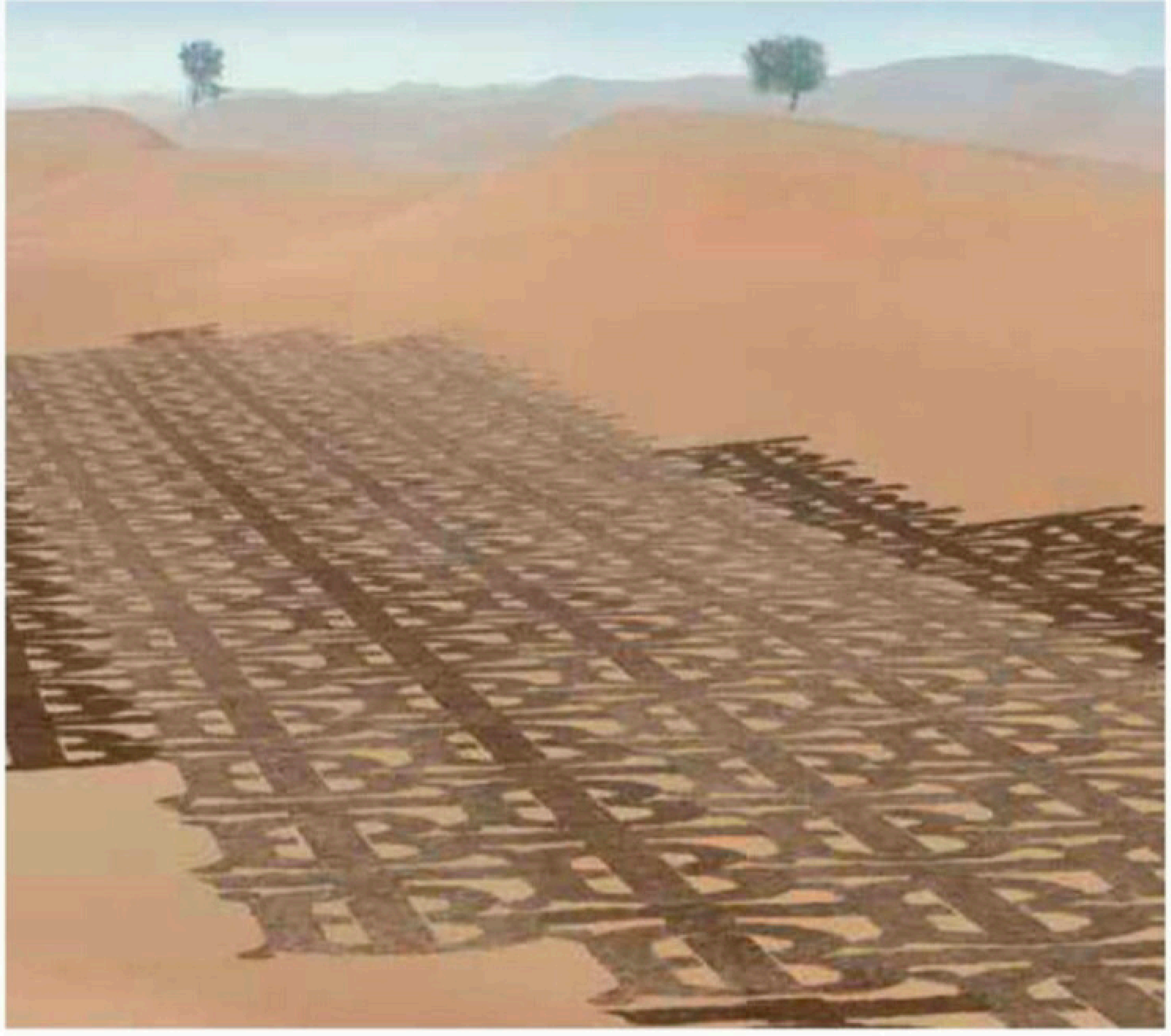
HISTORY PRESENTATION

When the task of making a visual autobiography of the the late Salvatore Ferragamo is passed on to the acclaimed director of *Call Me By Your Name*, Luca Guadagnino, an instant success is almost certain. The Italian film director tells the story behind the creative shoemaking genius — from his birthplace in Italy to the Hollywood Boot Shop in California — in a feature film presented at the Venice Film Festival that is making its way online in September.



RECONNECTING OUTDOORS

According to Burberry, the best remedy for the rest of the world who are staying indoors and yearning for reconnection, comes in the form of creating massive sculptures that travels across breathtaking landscapes. From sand inscriptions in the deserts of Dubai, sailing fleets of boats in Shenzhen to hot air balloons in Inner Mongolia, these moving sculptures carry the Thomas Burberry Monogram to places beyond imagination and create the perfect dream for when it is safe to be out again.

LUXURY TWIST

Athleisure has really never went away and the collaboration between Prada and Adidas cements that fact. The two brands return with a new partnership, this time with the release of a reinvented Superstar style (a monumental Adidas icon) offered in a trio of new colourways — monochrome black, white with black, and chrome silver with white. While the unisex design remains completely unchanged, it is the expert craftsmanship executed by Prada's footwear specialists that fuses the language of luxury with the streets.

FUNNY BUSINESS

Akin to subtle humour that makes up most street artists' portfolios, up next on the roster for the 2 MONCLER 1952 collection sees menswear designer Sergio Zambon take on decades of styles in an eclectic nod to the pastel-coloured clothing of Californian youth. Observed through the Moncler filter, surreal scenes of blankets as capes, emerald laquè nylon and upholstered corduroy blended with a punk twist end with a focus on accessories — one of the first for the down jacket-focused brand.

AMERICAN DREAM

The almost 79-year old made in New York label, Coach has always been unapologetically American — that carries the ideals of optimism and authenticity. Hence, the next member of the Coach family, Jeremy Lin fits like a perfect sock. The basketball player and CBA All-Star joins the likes of Michael B. Jordan and Jennifer Lopez for its latest campaigns, in a debut that see his journey as the face of the brand's second China Collective collection and the upcoming Fall '20 collection.

EXTREME ENDS

When it comes to the ideal bag as a man's must-have essential, size does matter — a smaller bag might seem more attractive, a larger bag makes carrying things much easier. In the instance where a decision cannot be made, two extreme options would serve the dilemma best. Speaking through Loewe's language, the Goya Slim, Anton Sling and Bumbag Puffy makes an extra large (and extra small) comeback for Fall/Winter '20, where house classics are resized with two options for the fickle-minded.

A GENTLE GAIT

The Hermès Fall/Winter '20 collection exudes fluid restraint for the French maison known for its exceptional savoir faire, where the mastery of craftsmanship lies within its control.

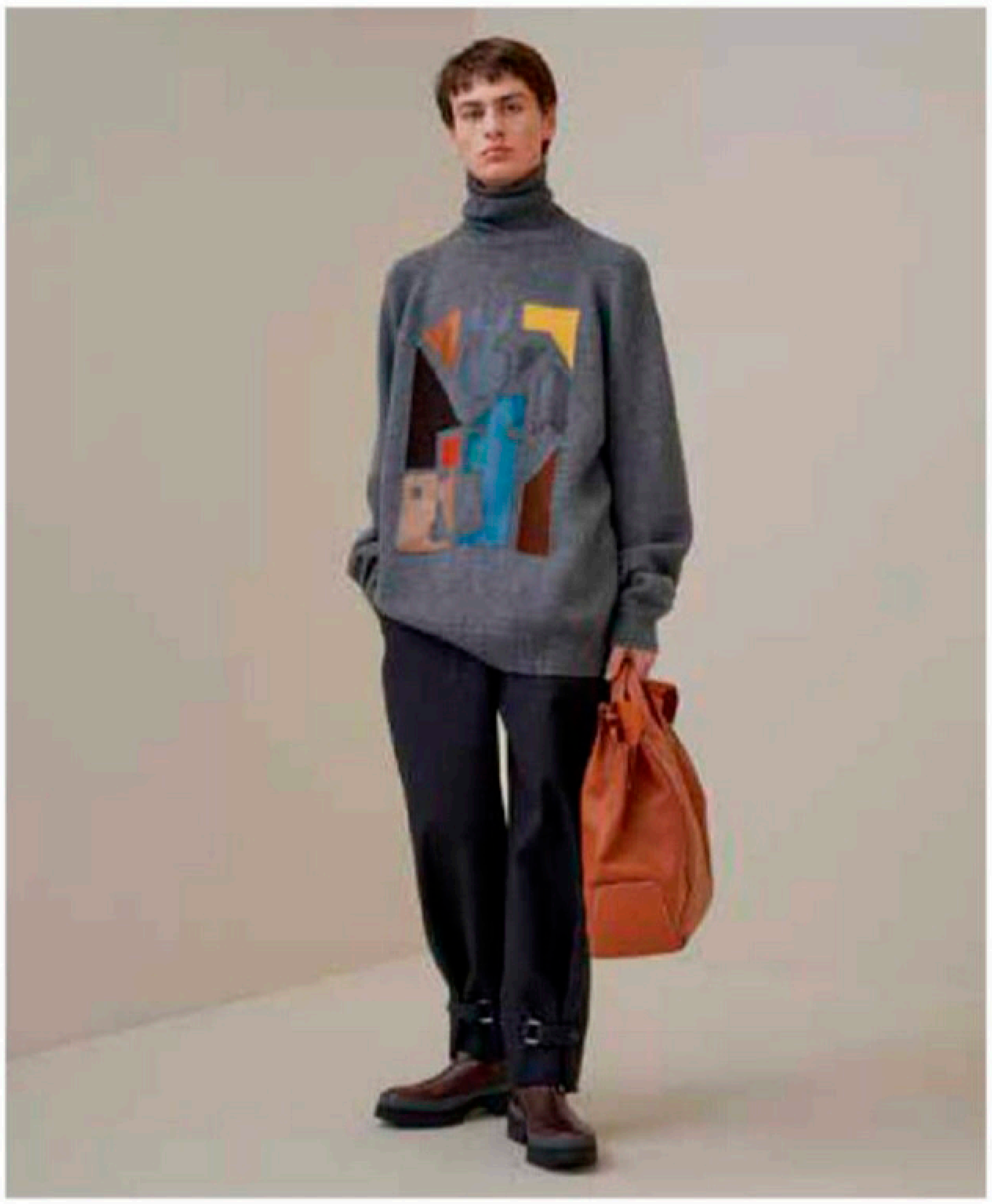
by Wilson Lim

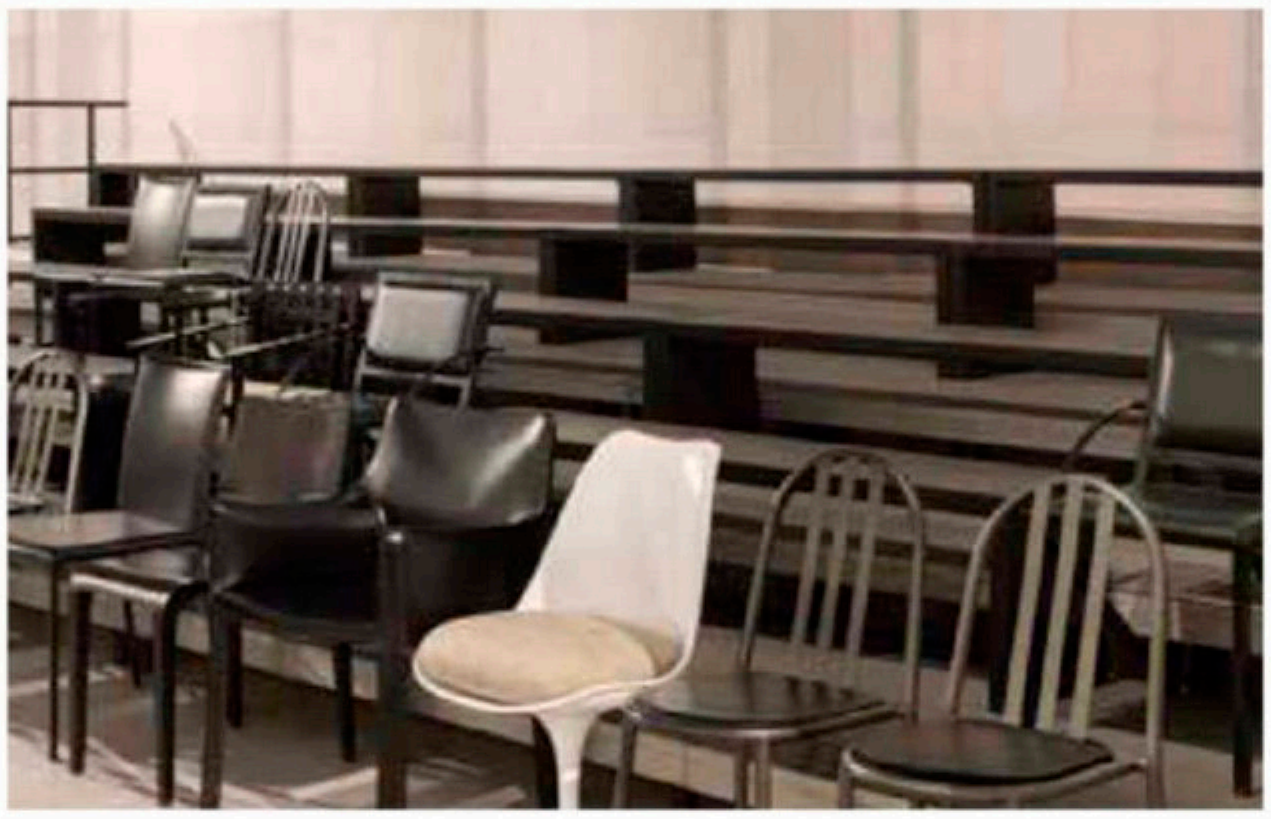
The Mobilier National (the oldest furniture depository in the world) in the 13th arrondissement of Paris was the stomping ground of the Hermès Fall/Winter '20 collection. It was also the third time that artistic director of Hermès men's universe, Véronique Nichanian chose to show at the same venue — one that is responsible for the upkeep and administration of all furniture and objects in France's royal residences.

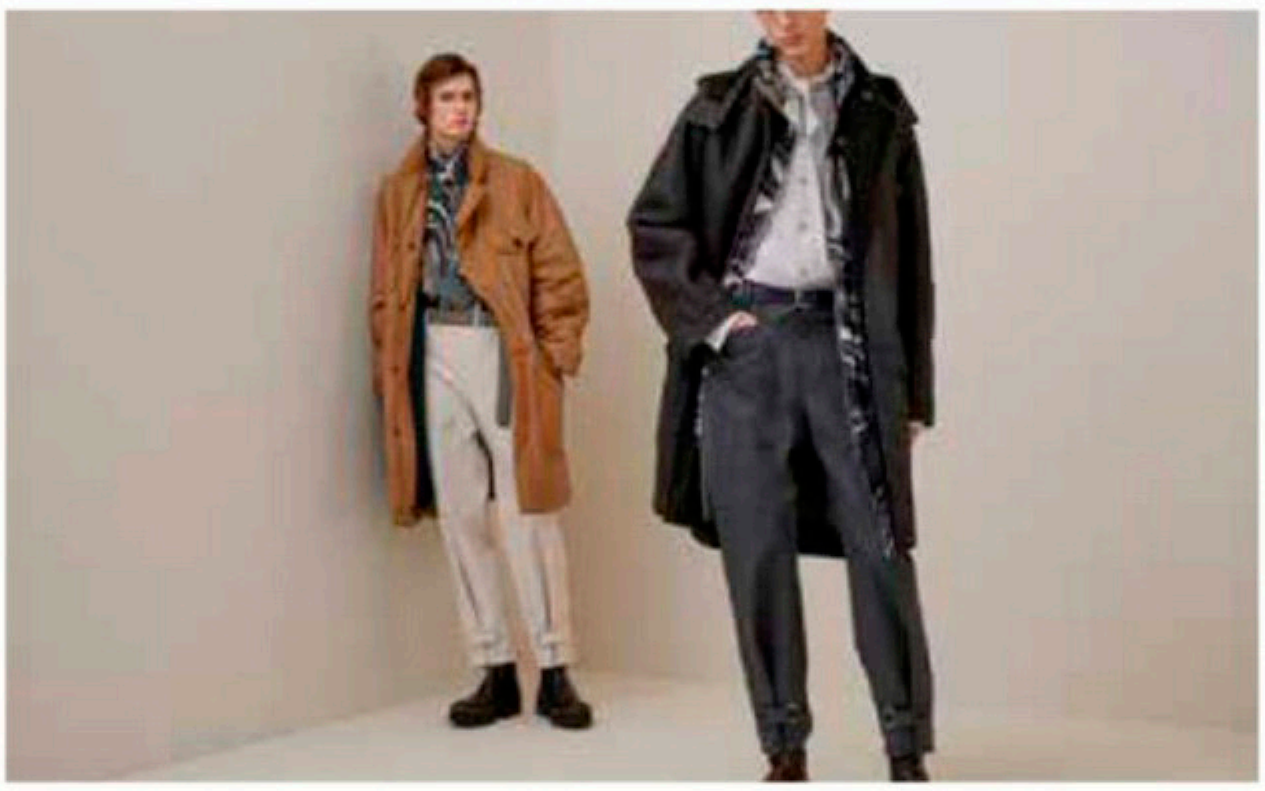
At first glance, the collection features Nichanian's familiar silhouettes from Hermès menswear — classic staples of suits, jackets, overshirts, sweaters and straight-cut pants formed through pure lines that give generous proportions. The wardrobe's key colours of camel, chocolate, charcoal and black alongside sprinkles of mustard yellow and dark blue are apparent through the prominent "Rêve hypnotique" (hypnotic dreams in French) print in the Fall/Winter '20 collection.

The dedication to warm fabrics is aimed at pulling attention to the sensuality and depth in the collection. Nichanian shook the grounds of the Hermès men's universe by maximising the maison's knowledge of craftsmanship and its arsenal of sumptuous materials for the Fall/Winter '20 collection — adding luxurious details to the wardrobe not only because they have the know-how, but also because the defining subtleties turn the simple act of putting on a garment into one that is decadent; from comfortably slipping one's arms into it right down to the act of wearing it out.

Upon closer examination, one will be hypnotised by the functional double sidedness of the tops. From the outright reversible calfskin sweaters that can also be worn inside out as a deerskin option to coats in two-ply water-repellent cashmere with either calfskin or silk lining — Nichanian wants the wearers to relish in the warmth and comfort of a luxurious garment from inside to out.







The extent of this consideration even reaches garments that typically protect the neck and can be uncomfortable — deerskin turtleneck sweaters and windbreakers come reversible in cashmere broadcloth to minimise skin chaffing.

Along the lines of options, wide-legged pants with pleats — a familiar favourite of the house — are supplemented with tightening straps at the cuff to taper the overall silhouette while parkas feature removable hoods.

The double sided theme runs amok in the presentation of the suits where single and double-breasted jackets come with double contrasted fronts in wool flannel or in wool and mohair canvas. Some turtleneck sweaters bore the same mark with a "tearaway" shoulder detail, allowing for pops of colours to peek through when worn under jackets and coats.

Other interesting details come in the form of exaggerated, contrasted patch pockets on windbreakers, leather "Mix and patch" patchworks applied precisely like abstract art on cardigans and oversized sweaters, and embroidered "Fleurs graffiti" motif on overshirts — exemplifiers of nimble hands working on delicate materials.

Hermès Fall/Winter '20 collection is a presentation of classic menswear that infuses Nichanian's sensitivity to a younger audience and meets their demands through the savoir faire of the house, without threatening the codes of quiet luxury. Appealing to broad age groups with its intense respect for craftsmanship that results in sensible and winsome clothes — Nichanian has knocked it out of the park.

CRAFTING ANEW

For Fall/Winter '20, Dolce&Gabbana celebrates the artisanal spirit of its Italian heritage with an ambitious classic-yet-new collection.

by Manfred Lu

FATTO
A
MANO

There is no denying that Domenico Dolce and Stefano Gabbana are proud Italians. With picturesque advertisements set against Italian landscapes, their 35-year old label has always embodied a sense of national pomp and pride. After all, the country is a great export for some of the best art, history and artisanship in the world — a place obsessed with values of uniqueness, excellence and durability above all else. Therefore, it comes as no surprise that for Fall/Winter '20, the creative duo has decided to celebrate craftsmanship as its language for the new menswear collection.

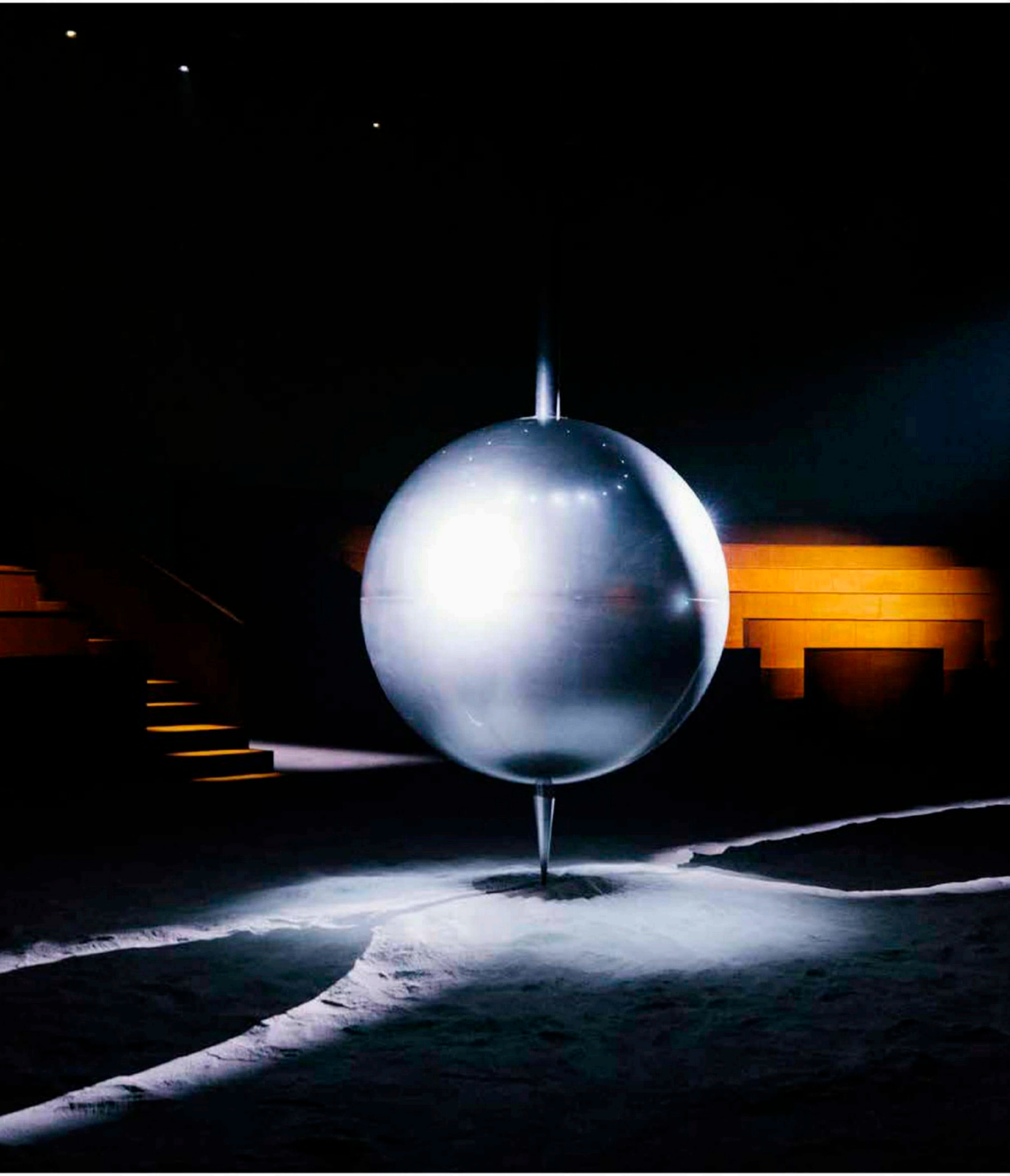
In true Dolce&Gabbana fashion, the tropes of a family — depicted through a father passing on his skill to his son — drives the collection. It honours the rare skills of the past through artistically rendered interpretations of traditional tradesmen roles like a tailor, shepherd, florist, knitter, pasta maker, carter, barber, ceramist and shoemaker. The florist is paid homage to with a utilitarian pair of all overalls and the shepherd sees modern coat silhouettes that finish off the look in a smart and sleek manner.

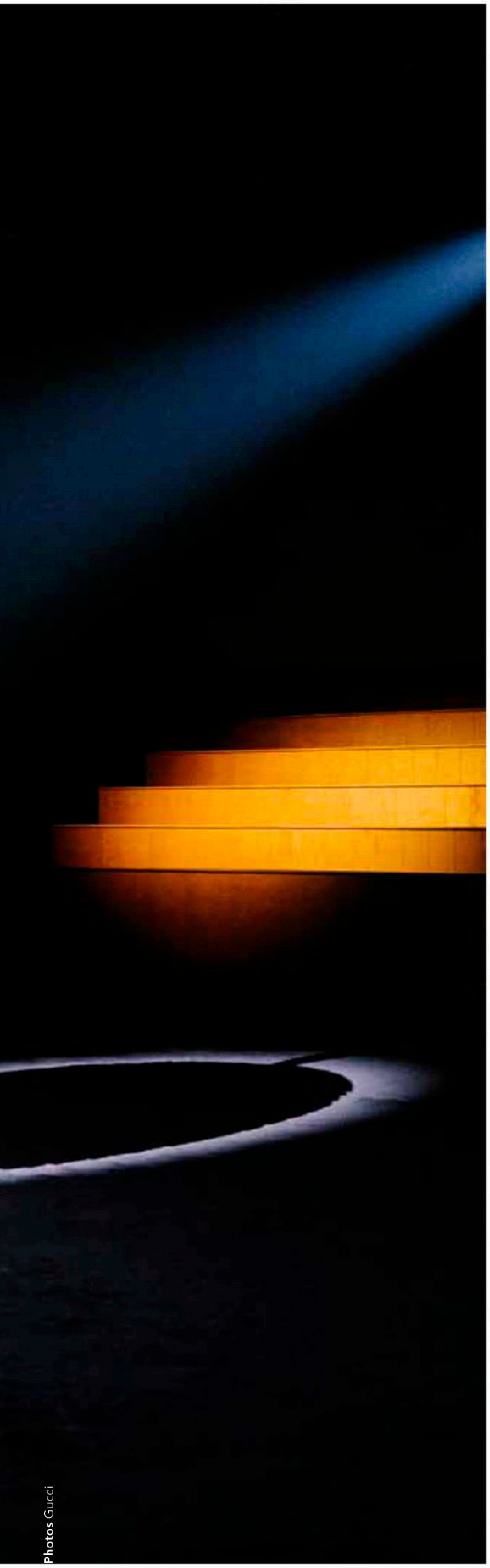
The array of models walking down the runway wearing workman aprons and carrying tools in overalls is a departure from the label's forte for sparkly yet detailed baroque prints. Instead, a tactile collection of blacks, whites, greys and neutrals comes to play — echoing a modern need for attention to details. The result is a rustic, call-back to fashion's favourites that are refreshing and thoughtful.

Yet, modernity inflects every part of the rustic-heavy pieces. The process of reinvention is an important process for a house that is forward-thinking after all — a utilitarian jumpsuit is reinvented to resemble a cardigan and sporty street-wear finishes are mixed to ensure a contemporary outlook. The rustic flairs come from oversized volumes and considerations for treatment of fabrics that draw the fashion back to its roots — the likes of employment techniques such as traditional stone washing that softens the fabric.

The ethos of craftsmanship reflects not only the tradesmen that heavily inspired the collection but also in the showcase of the house's signature suits. Impeccably sharp and expertly tailored pieces complete the 116-look collection, with a finale of sartorial-focused silhouettes lined intricately with precious materials and fine Sicilian wool that accentuates the classic masculine silhouette. It denotes the resulting endeavour for quality above all else — a closing to the artisanal tale.

Realism brings the pieces to life, and the success of Dolce&Gabbana mirrors the message in the collection. Over the last 35 years, the house has made a name for itself for the excellent dressing of the modern men and women with their attention to detail and excellent craftsmanship. If anything about this collection is for certain, it is that Dolce&Gabbana knows how to dress a man well.





Photos Gucci

THE INNER CHILD

Challenging traditional ideas of masculinity, the Gucci Fall/Winter '20 collection by creative director Alessandro Michele makes a return to childhood while neutering gender codes.

by John Ng

The innocent childlike scribble, "You are invited to my fifth birthday rave, Ale" on the French vintage postcard-style invitation serves to refresh the memory of every guest that this year was Alessandro Michele's fifth anniversary as the creative director of the Italian house, while ever so discreetly announcing that the Gucci Fall/Winter '20 show was going to be a celebration to remember.

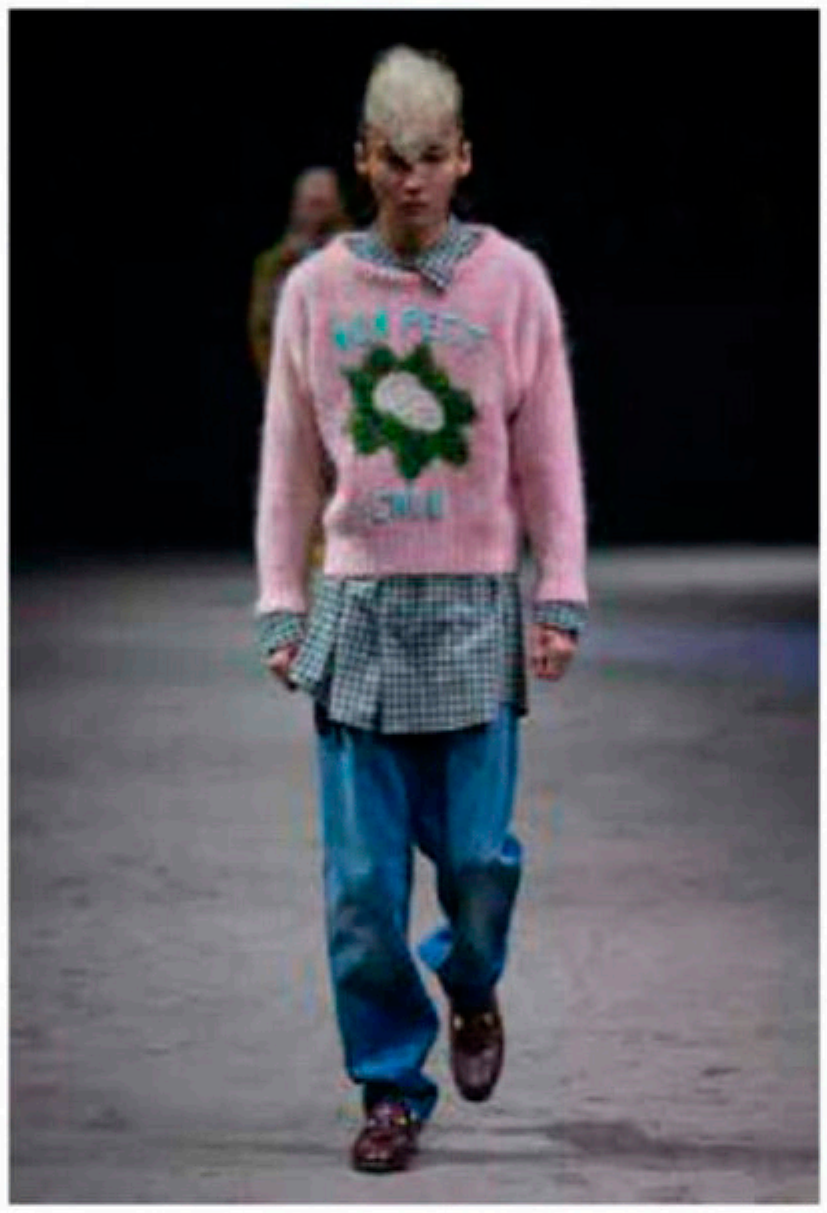
With celebrity guests such as Anderson Paak, Tyler the Creator, Kelvin Harrison Jr., Jared Leto, Mark Ronson, Phoebe Collings-James, South Korean singer Kai and Japanese rock star Miyavi filling up the front row, a giant Foucault pendulum (a 1851 invention devised to demonstrate the Earth's roation) swung back and forth at the centre of the show space at the Palazzo Delle Scintille. At the same time, the pendulum also marked a distinct line in the sand beneath it. Once the models hit the runway, the pendulum seemingly started moving in random angles, depicting French physicist Léon Foucault's outline of a non-linear time — much like Michele's perception of fashion.

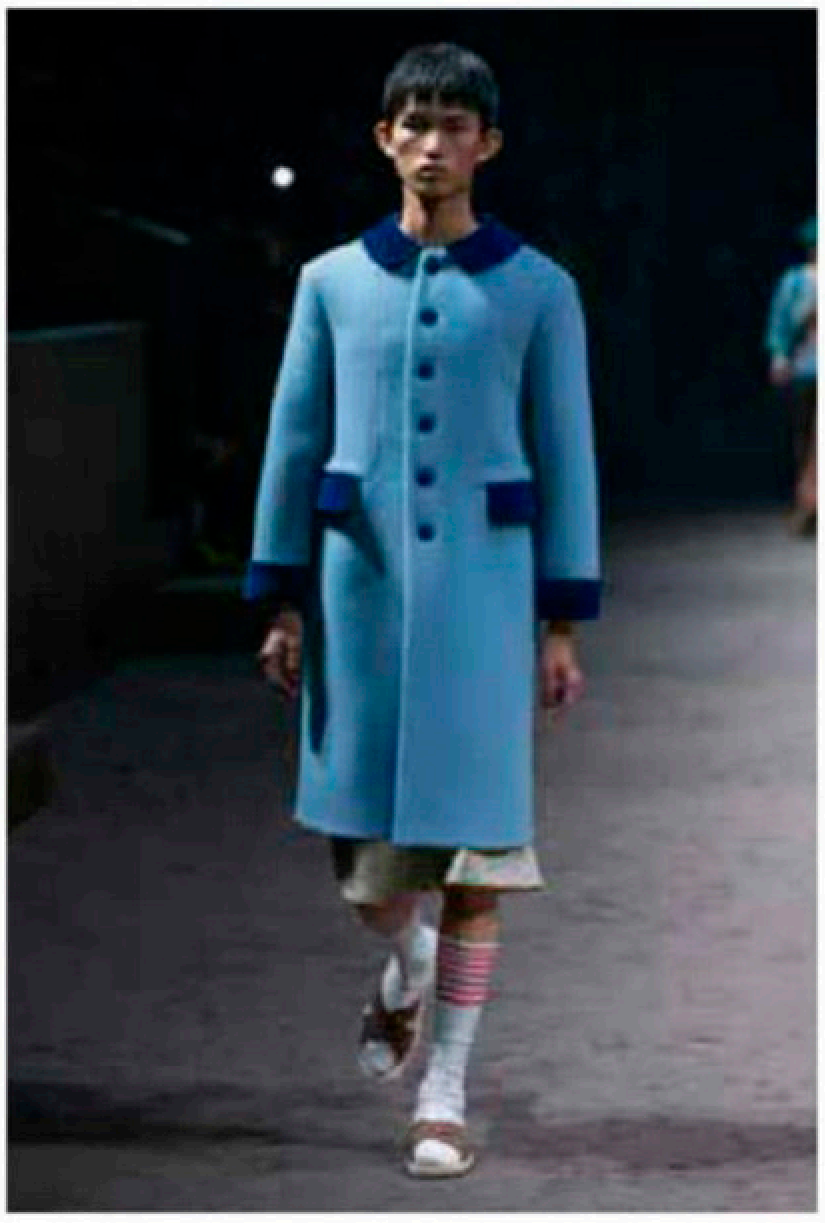
Instead of being nostalgic, Michele wanted his audience to reminisce on an interesting period of time in their lives and to reflect on the established norms of masculinity through a collection inspired by childhood — a period perceived to bear no constraint on the notion of dressing up. "Childhood is a freeing time, there are fewer labels [and] you can be yourself. When you grow up, you are told 'you can't do that [because] you're a boy and you're going to primary school'," he was once quoted saying.

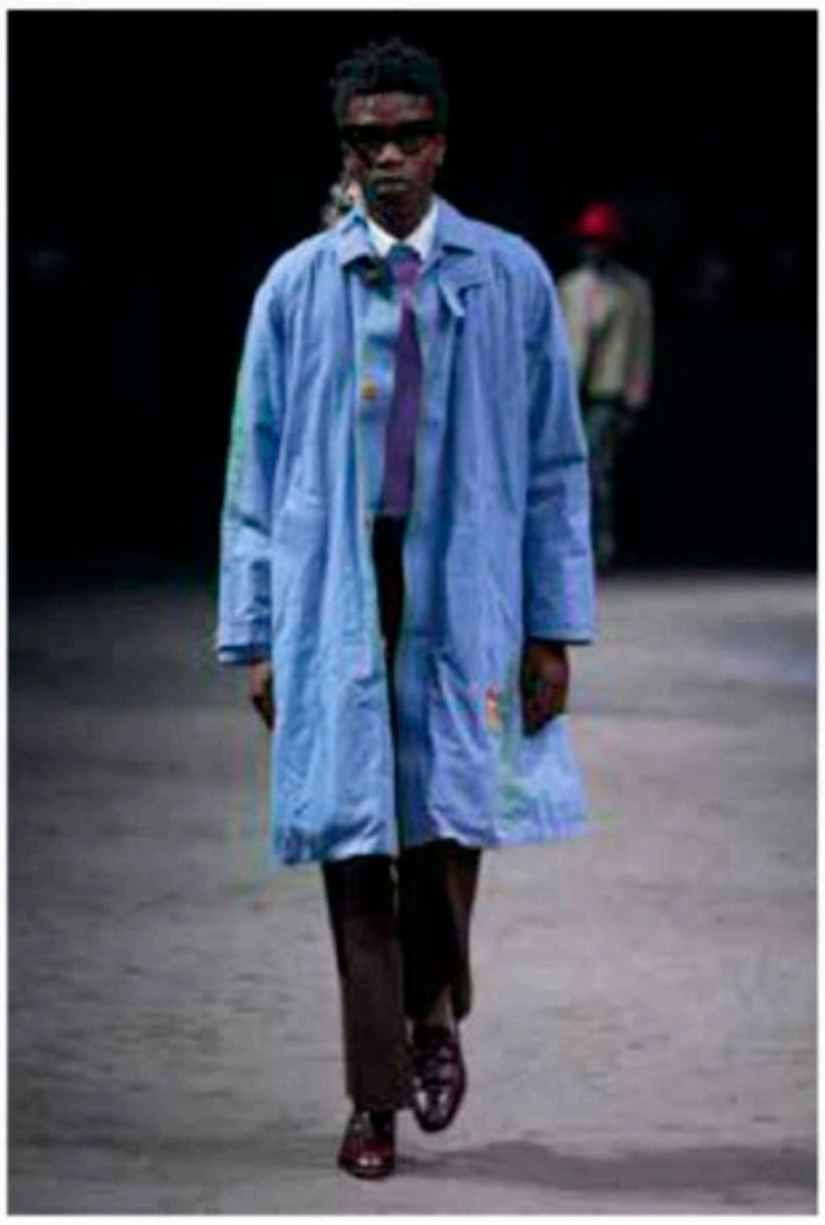
What Michele does is not a stark contrast from what his past collections have been reverberating thoughout his tenure of five years. Since his debut show, he has been tabling the cloud of connotations surrounding the preconceived notions of inclusiveness. The first collection was soft yet powerful with a gender-fluid message and the conversation continues in this collection through pieces from one's pre-adolescence.

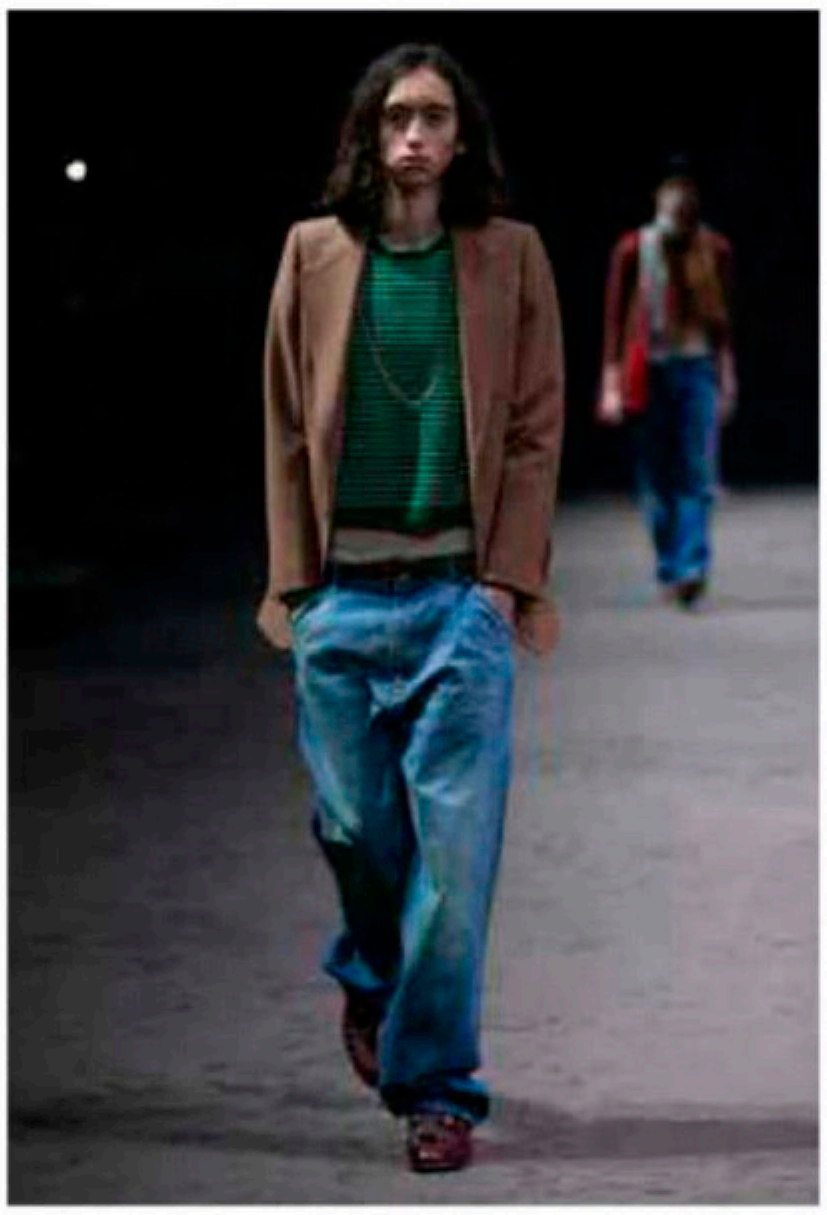
"In a patriarchal society, the masculine gender identity is often moulded by violently toxic stereotypes. A dominant, winning, oppressive masculinity model is imposed on babies at birth. Attitudes, languages and actions end up progressively conforming to a macho virility ideal that removes vulnerability and dependence.

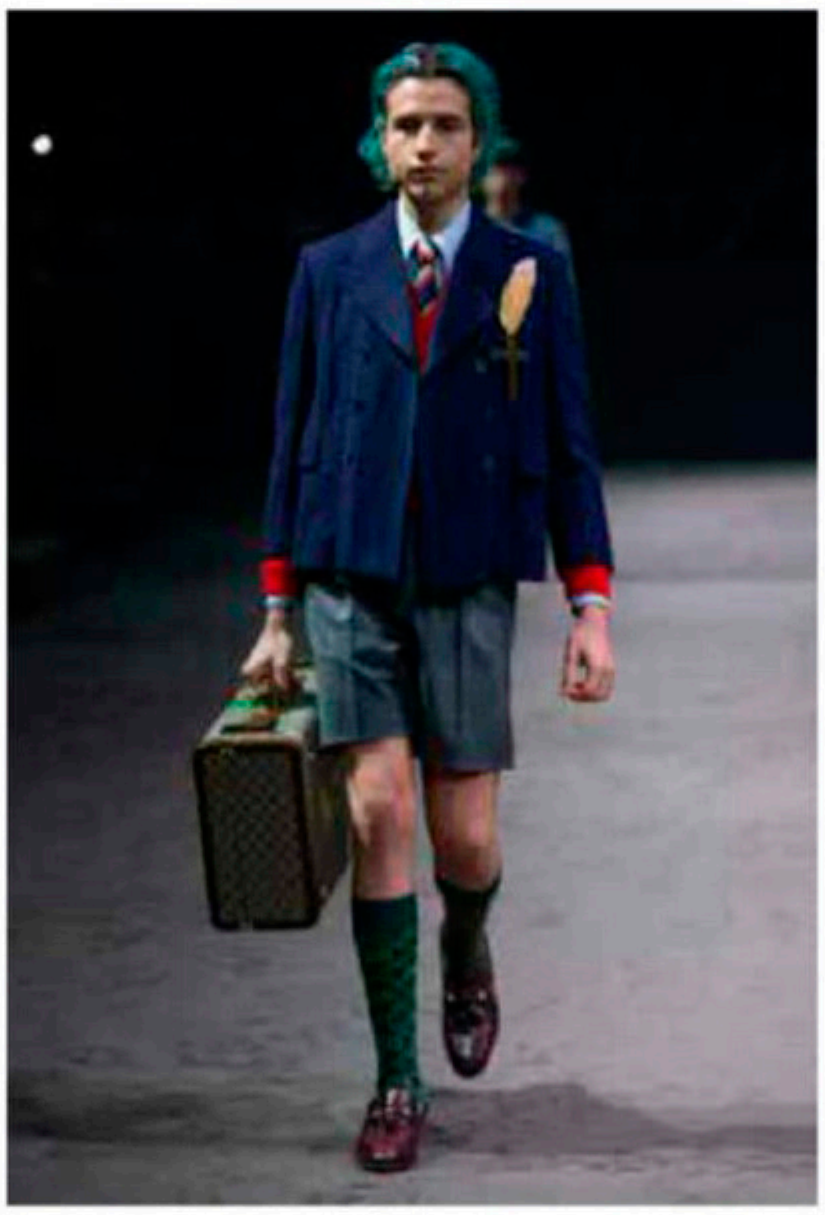
Any possible reference to femininity is aggressively banned as it is considered a threat against the complete affirmation of a masculine











prototype that allows no divergencies," stated the show notes.

"There is nothing natural in this drift. The model is socially and culturally built to reject anything that doesn't comply with it. And this has very serious implications like toxic masculinity which in fact, nourishes abuse, violence and sexism. And not only that, it also condemns men themselves to conform to an imposed phallocratic virility in order to be socially accepted. In other words, toxic masculinity produces oppressors and victims at the same time."

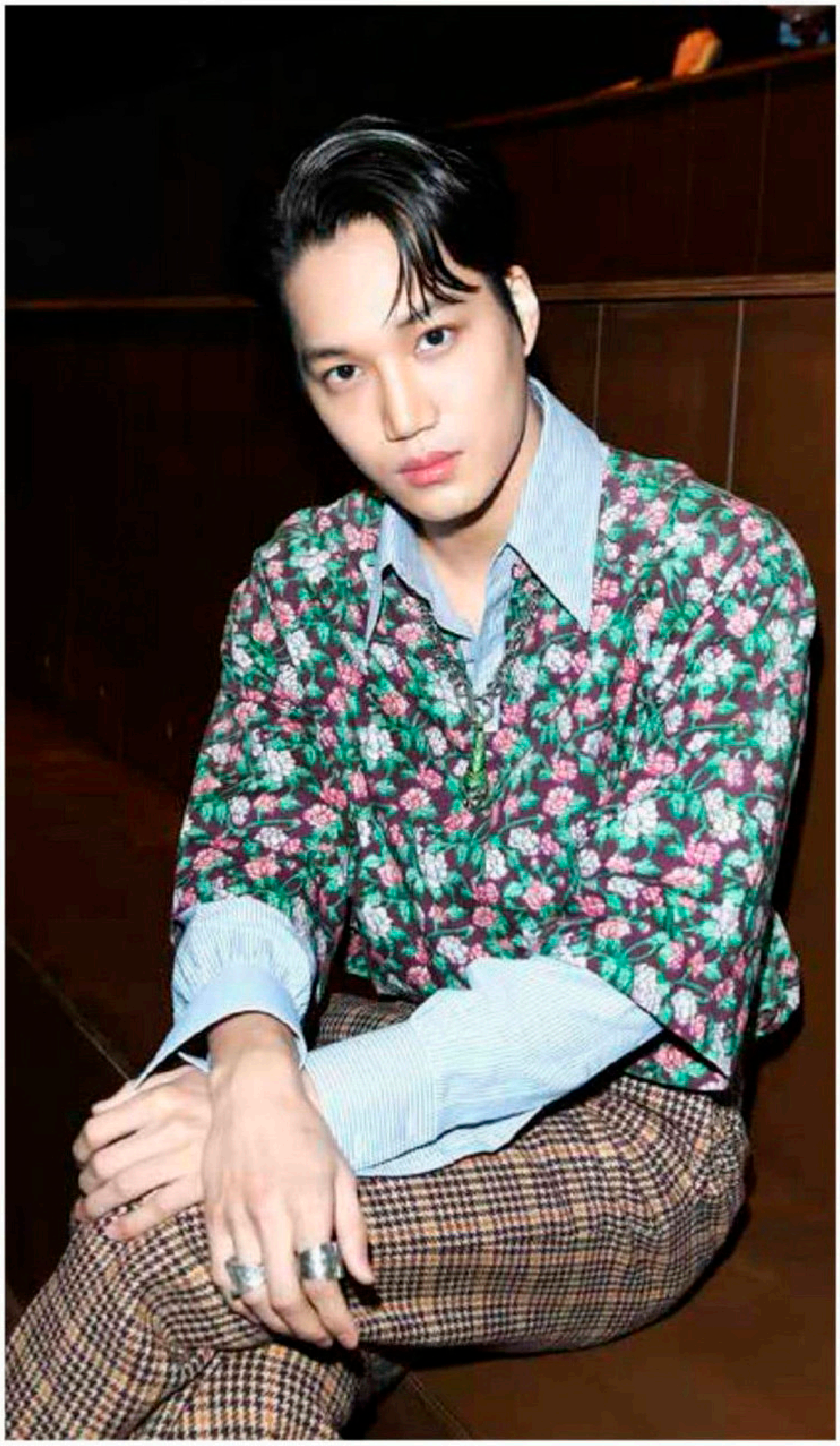
The collection included a prim powder blue suit with knickerbockers (a form of men's or boys' baggy-kneed pants particularly popular in the early 20th-century United States), black leather school shoes, square-shaped metal bags and GG-patterned knee-high socks, as well as a baby blue gingham coat, a knitted sweater with the mantra "mon petit chou" and a couple of low-slung jeans. There were also oversized knits, a striking-looking leopard-print coat, metallic flares and grungy 1990s denim as well as a couple pair of jeans appearing soiled by the unmistakable green bruising of grass stains — a perennial laundry-day challenge for parents of boys — and not forgetting a few shrunken sweater vests. The showstopper was a blue velvet blazer, especially so when it was finished off with a single, rebellious earring.

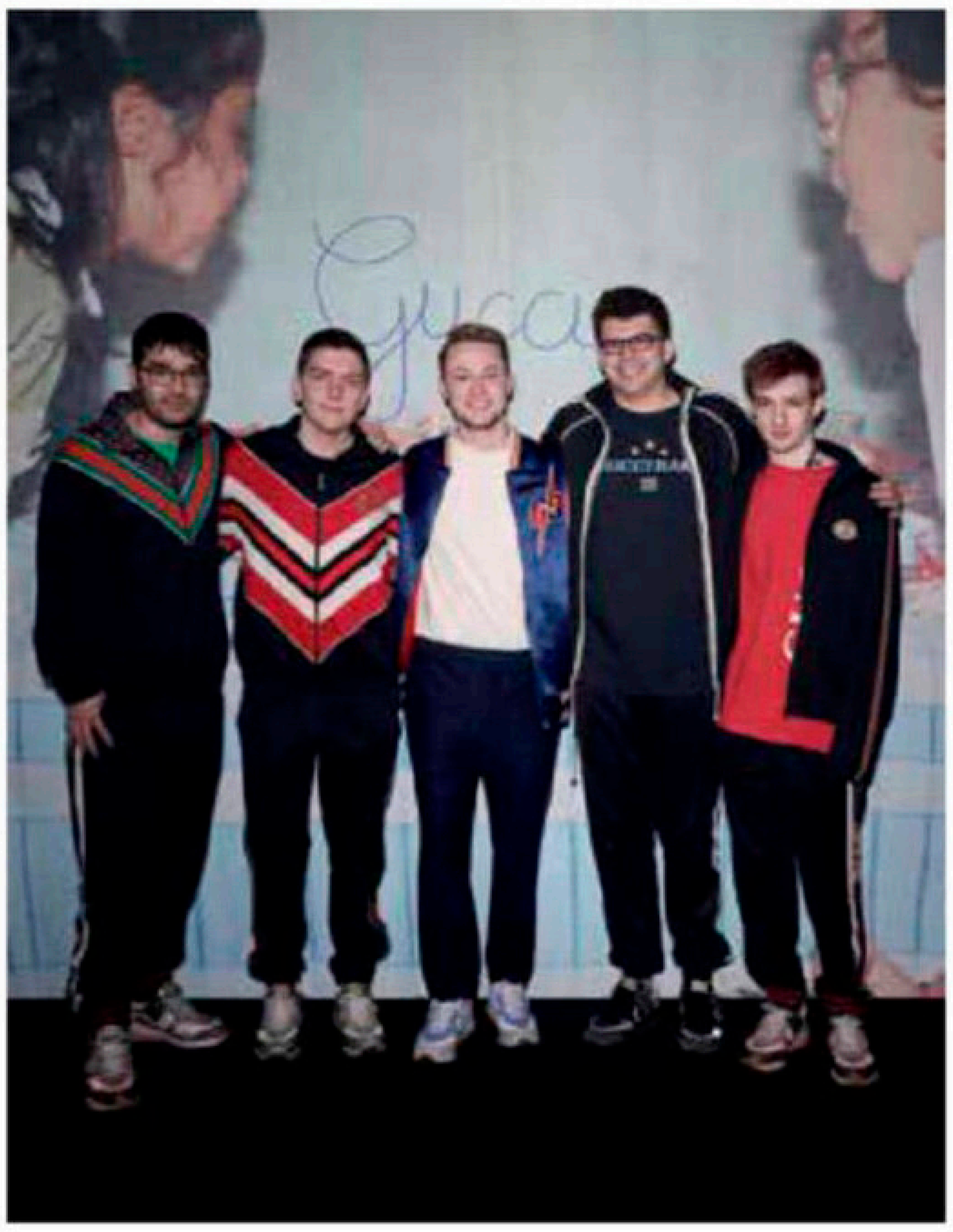
Other highlights comprised bags with the word "fake" on one side and "not" on the other, and T-shirts with the nouns "impotent/impatient" and "thank/think". The tidy silhouette of the Ultrapace R sneaker is updated with a performance-inspired look, featuring a more technological composition — a design expected to make its mark on mainstream sneakers like with the Rhyton. Accessories included bolero hats, animal pins and diamond chandelier necklaces.

For the Gucci Fall/Winter '20 collection, it was not just Michele's intention to coerce his audience into revising and reconsidering their old, learned conception of masculinity. Instead, he offered alternative interpretations about being a man in a world that is diverse and brimming with different elements. No matter how open-minded and socially conscious we may think we are, it is our responsibilities to prevent stereotypes and prejudice from influencing our discernment process. "It's not about suggesting a new normative model but rather to release who was constrained by breaking a symbolic order, which is nowadays useless.

By turning back time and learning to unlearn, Michele have successfully communicated his message through an array of gender-refuting garments by swinging the pendulum back to our childhoods.

Gucci
Men's




Gucci

Body LANGUAGE

A sense of spontaneity, precise movement matched with grace and a heart to soul conversation that transcends gender boundaries — the qualities that the five instructors from Legacy Dance Co. share with the Ermenegildo Zegna x FEAR OF GOD collection.

PHOTOGRAPHY **CHER HIM** STYLING & TEXT **BRYAN GOH**

(From left to right) Wool gabardine coat, T-shirt and wool pants. Rings, Ryan's own; Cotton shirt, wool jacket and cotton-velvet sweatpants; Wool sweater, cotton-velvet pants. Earrings, Andre's own; Cotton sweater, wool-twill pants; Wool Gabardine jacket, cotton T-shirt and wool gabardine pants; **All clothing from the Fear of God exclusively for Ermenegildo Zegna collection.**

The story of Legacy Dance Co. (legacy.dco) started in 2014 after a group of friends, who met during their Co-Curricular Activities days at Ngee Ann Poly, wanted to pursue their dream of starting a dance company together. They have performed and competed together on numerous occasions both locally and overseas for events like the World Supremacy Battlegrounds in Melbourne, Singapore Dance Delight and Co-Exist — an annual dance competition organised by themselves.

(FROM LEFT TO RIGHT)

RYAN "My genre of dance is me — a culmination of my interests, quirks, and everyday inspiration I consume both knowingly and unknowingly. I've been dancing for 13 years and my inspirations are Denzel Washington and Gary Vee. I got started because my primary school friend invited me to perform when I was Primary five!"

CHELSEA "I've been dancing for a long time and I'm inspired by everybody around me — my family, my teachers and my friends. I also draw inspiration from the dancers whom I've had the privilege to get to know or work with. If I've had to describe my style though then it's probably lyrical meets contemporary meets alien weirdo."

ANDRE "I would call my style 'girls' style'! But I'm constantly trying to explore and learn new things and it's a journey — one that I've been on for about five years when I first embarked on at NTU MJ where I was actually inspired by one of my close friends, Carmen. I saw her dancing on stage and I was completely hypnotised — that was the ignition for me to take up dancing."

JACOB "I feel the freest when I am not bounded by any rules or basics and I like to explore other genres while training myself to be a versatile dancer. I would say that my dance style is choreography — a fusion of steps from multiple other styles that also takes inspiration from choreographers like Keone, Mari Madrid, Sorah Yang and my teammates around me."

HAZIQUE "One part hip hop and the other part swag — that's what I call my style of dance and I've been dancing for about five to six years since I joined my polytechnic's dance club. The people that inspired to get started would definitely have to be the JabbaWockeez, and then Sh*t Kingz after."

(From left to right) Wool gabardine coat, cotton shirt, wool gabardine pants, suede and leather driving loafers; Wool jacket, wool sweater, wool pants, suede and leather driving loafers; Wool jacket, cotton T-shirt, wool sweatpants, calfskin leather belt, suede and leather driving loafers.
All clothing and shoes from the Fear of God exclusively for Ermenegildo Zegna collection.

“The collection speaks to our audience just as it does Jerry Lorenzo’s, but we believe it can also appeal to a new client, thanks to the mix of Zegna’s impeccable tailoring and Fear of God’s concept of laid-back luxury. We have worked with great balance, without our ego’s ever surpassing one another, to create a unique new wardrobe. A perfect synthesis of our two souls: clothes to wear at any time of the day in order to feel good. And this is only the beginning, as our conversation has just begun,” — Alessandro Sartori, artistic director of Ermenegildo Zegna.

WHAT IS ONE SONG THAT GETS YOU CRUNK AND DO YOU HAVE A FUNNY STORY TO SHARE ABOUT YOUR TEAMMATES?

JIAJUN Pictured in the middle is Jiajun — the founder of Legacy Dance Co. — who banded this merry group of steppers. “I started dancing in 2003 because of NSYNC,” says Jiajun and in fact, all it takes is It’s Gonna Be Me by NSYNC to get him crunk.

“Our mission at Legacy Dance Co. is to use the art of dance to inspire the next generation of youths”.

CHELSEA “My go-to dance song is hard to pick but it’s anything of the praise and worship genre or anything old school like Daryl Hall and John Oates. Don’t ask any of my team members for their embarrassing or funny moments because I think I’ve got the most!”

JACOB “Are You Gonna Be My Girl by Jet — That’s hands down my favourite song to dance to. Embarrassing or funny moments? To be confirmed.”

(From left to right) Gabardine jacket, cotton shirt, wool-twilll pants, suede and leather driving loafers; Bracelet and rings, Ryan's own; Wool jacket, cotton shirt, wool joggers, calfskin leather belt, suede and leather driving loafers; Earrings, Andre's own Wool gabardine coat, cotton T-shirt, wool-twill sweatpants, suede and leather driving loafers
All clothing and shoes from the Fear of God exclusively for Ermenegildo Zegna collection

Styling Assistant **Manfred Lu**
Makeup and Grooming **Priscelia Wong** using **NARS**
Hair **Christvian Goh** using **KEUNE**

WHAT IS ONE SONG THAT GETS YOU CRUNK AND DO YOU HAVE A FUNNY STORY TO SHARE ABOUT YOUR TEAMMATES?

RYAN "Saint Tropez by Post Malone. And an embarrassing moment that I've seen of my team mates? Next!"

ANDRE "I listen and dance to all kinds of songs because each genre inspires a different kind of movement and vibe. So, I would say I don't really have one that is an absolute go-to. If you asked me for a funny moment, Hazique and I had to clean a jacuzzi tub at his house and we totally forgot that it would've been a better idea to internally flush out the dirt and debris before starting to clean it. Everything sprayed out when we turned it on and we had to clean it all over again. It was an experience."

HAZIQUE "My go-to dance song would be Juice by Chris Brown. And for your second question, hasn't Andre already told you? It involves a mishap involving us cleaning a jacuzzi."

"This collaboration is based on mutual respect. When you meet someone for the first time, you immediately understand how far you can go. With Alessandro we understood each other from the very first moment, and this collection naturally evolved from our conversation. I design menswear but I always keep a woman in mind; I really love the way women wear men's clothing. I have always been fascinated by Ermenegildo Zegna clothing and this collaboration provides my clients with the opportunity to experience tailoring stitched with freedom, which I think Zegna customers will also enjoy," — Jerry Lorenzo, founder of Fear of God.

An Incidental Retrospective

THE 10 BLOCKBUSTER TRENDS FROM FALL/WINTER '20 ARE UNEARTHED FROM A TIME CAPSULE AND EVALUATED WITH A REFRESHED PERSPECTIVE.

TEXT **MANFRED LU**
DIGITAL IMAGING **CLARROT**

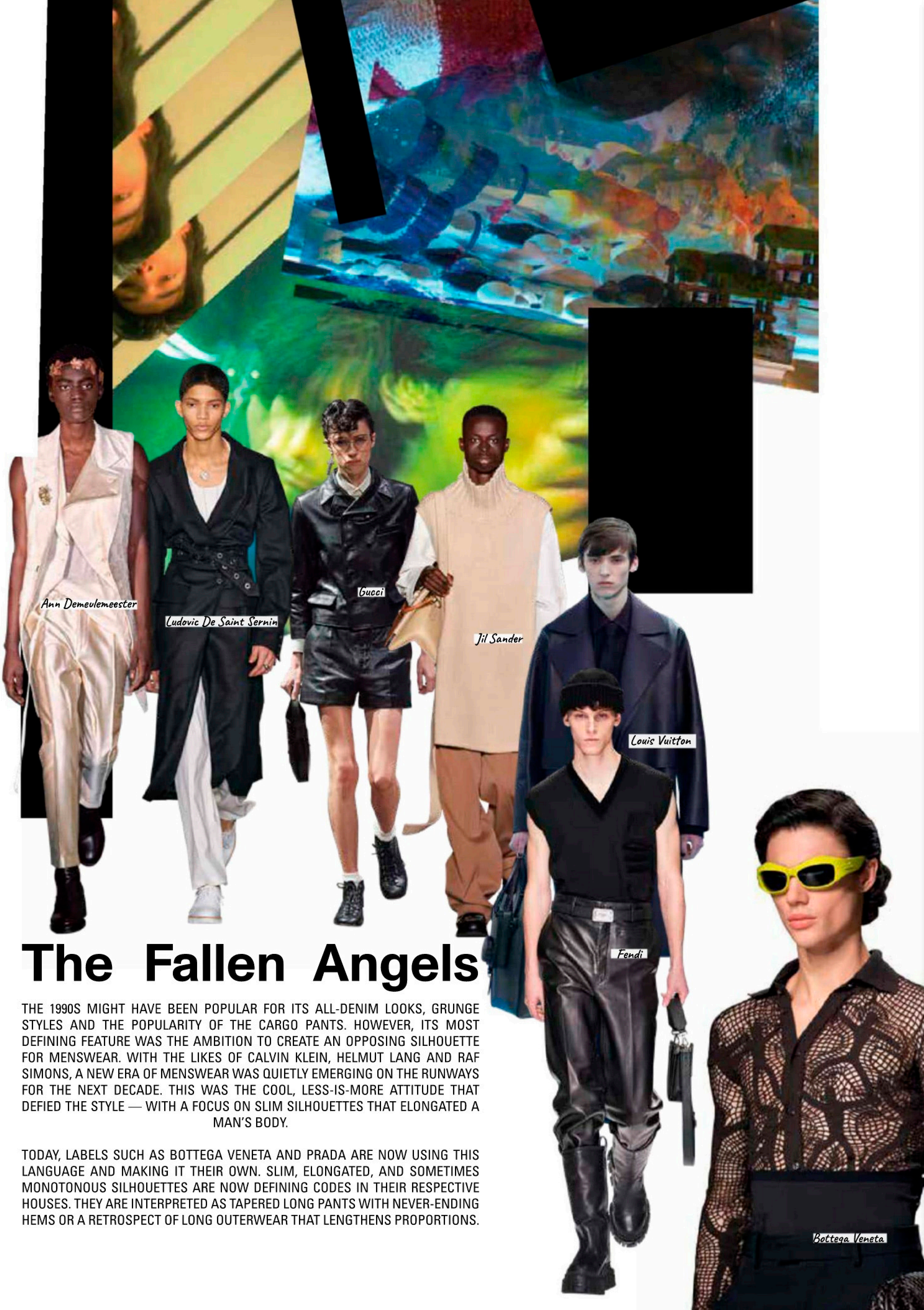
ON THE ANNOUNCEMENT THAT COVID-19 WAS DECLARED A GLOBAL PANDEMIC BY THE WORLD HEALTH ORGANISATION, A WAVE OF SILENCE FROM THE FASHION INDUSTRY WASHED ACROSS OUR SCREENS. NO LONGER WERE THERE ADVERTISEMENTS HARD-PUSHED BY DESIGNERS TO PROMOTE THE LATEST COLLECTIONS, NOR WERE THERE ANY CELEBRITY DRESSING GOSSIP THAT SPILT OUR TRENDING TABS ON TWITTER. AFTER MULTIPLE DECADES, FASHION WAS SILENT AND THE CLIMATE OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT REMAINED UNCERTAIN. WITH THE CURRENT INSTITUTIONAL MECHANICS OF WORKING AT LEAST HALF A YEAR AHEAD, THE FALL/WINTER '20 COLLECTIONS WERE LOST IN LIMBO.

BLOCKBUSTER TRENDS THAT SAW MENSWEAR TAKING ITS STIGMATISING SARTORIAL DNA AND REHASHING IT FOR THE NEXT GENERATION WERE THE TOPIC OF THE DAY. WHAT WAS EXPECTED TO BE A RETURN OF MANY BELOVED STYLES ACROSS FASHION'S HISTORY WAS INEVITABLY DISRUPTED. ECLECTIC RENDERINGS OF THE FORWARD GENTLEMAN FROM THE 1970S, THE RETURN OF 1990S MINIMALISM AND EVEN THE COMEBACK OF 18TH-CENTURY DRESSING WAS A CONVERSATION THAT HAD TO BE PLACED ON HOLD.
WHO WOULD HAVE KNOWN THEN?

THE CORE QUESTION OF WHAT WOULD HAPPEN NEXT WAS NOT IF THESE COLLECTIONS COULD STILL SELL, BUT IF IT SHOULD STILL PROCEED — WOULD IT BE SOCIALLY RESPONSIBLE FOR DESIGNERS TO CONTINUE THE EUPHEMISMS THEY HAVE CREATED IN JANUARY? AFTER ALL, FASHION IS A LOOKING GLASS TO THE WORLD'S HAPPENINGS AND ITS ROLE IS TO RESPOND TO TIMES AND ADAPT, OR RISK ITS RELEVANCE. TO DO SO WITH COLLECTIONS MADE BEFORE THE CRISIS MEANT THE ROLE OF THESE WORKS HAD TO CHANGE AND ITS NARRATIVES DEMANDED A DIFFERENT PERSPECTIVE.

THIS GLASS HALF-FULL, HALF-EMPTY SITUATION WORKS SIMPLY BY VIEWING THE COLLECTIONS NOT AS FORWARD PIECES, BUT CREATIONS FROM THE ERA THAT INSPIRED IT. IN THIS CASE, FASHION'S COLLECTIVE INCLINATION OF LOOKING TOWARDS THE PAST FOR INSPIRATION MEANT THAT THE LAST COLLECTION MADE BEFORE THE DAYS OF LOCKDOWN WAS AN UNINTENTIONAL TIME CAPSULE — A ROLODEX OF UNIMAGINABLE STYLES FROM THE PAST. INSTEAD OF RESPONDING TO A SEASON THAT MIGHT NO LONGER EXIST, ONE CAN VIEW THESE AS A CELEBRATION OF MENSWEAR'S GREATEST ACHIEVEMENTS.

AS TOPICS OF FASHION'S FUTURE REMAIN CLOUDY, THESE TRENDS FROM FALL/WINTER '20 WILL SERVE AS A REMINDER OF BETTER DAYS TO COME. WHEN THE TIME IS READY AND AS THE STREETS GET CROWDED AGAIN, THESE TRENDS WILL EMERGE IN WAYS BETTER THAN IMAGINED. THEIR NARRATIVES MIGHT CHANGE, BUT ITS ROLE IN CHANGING THE WAY MENSWEAR WILL PROGRESS FOR THE NEXT DECADE IS CERTAIN. AFTER ALL, FASHION RESTS FOR NO ONE — AND NOTHING WILL STOP ITS WAY IN MAKING OUR LIVES JUST A LITTLE MORE JOYOUS AND HOPEFUL.


Ann Demeulemeester
Ludovic De Saint Sernin
Gucci
Jil Sander
Louis Vuitton
Fendi
Bottega Veneta

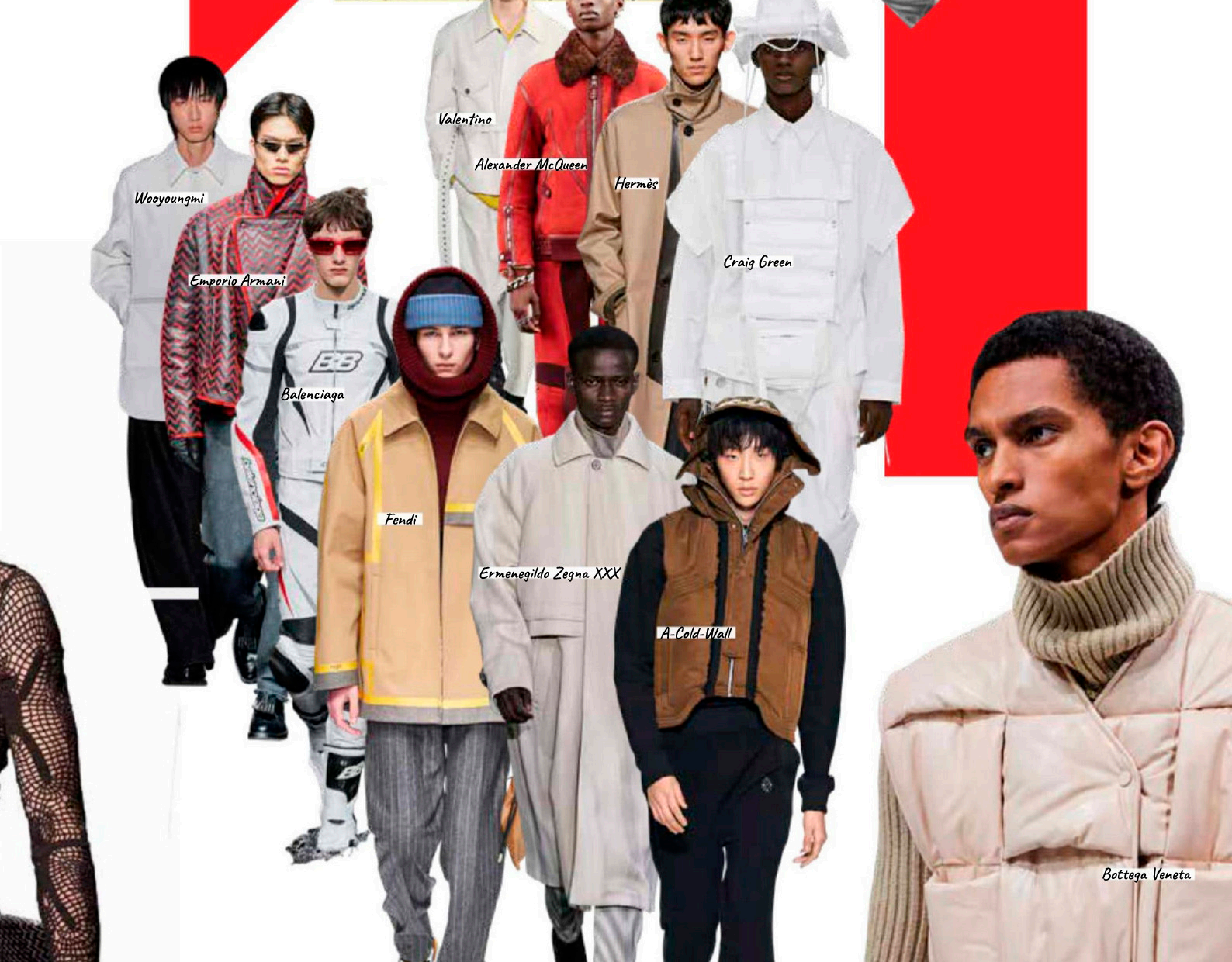
The Fallen Angels

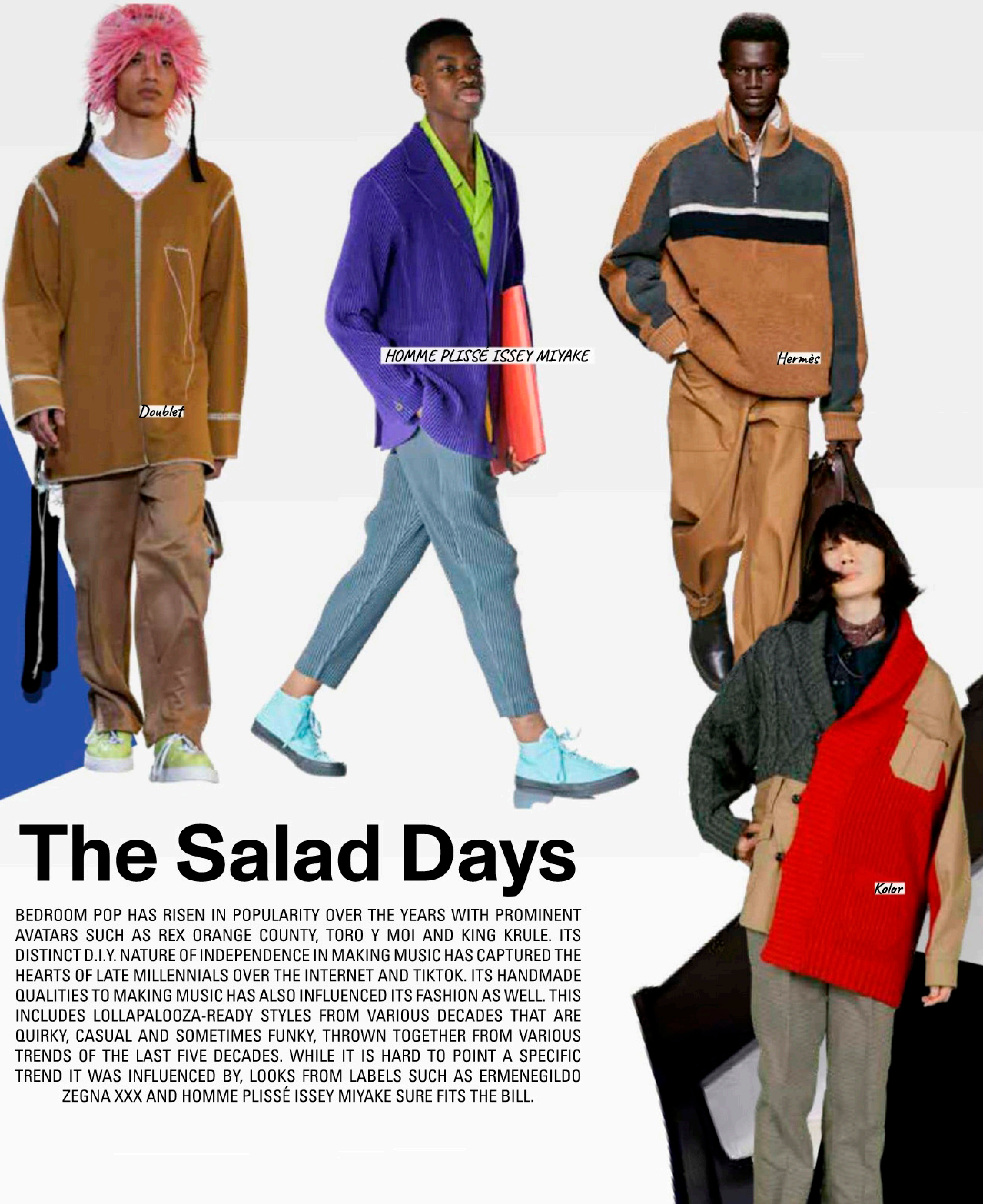
THE 1990S MIGHT HAVE BEEN POPULAR FOR ITS ALL-DENIM LOOKS, GRUNGE STYLES AND THE POPULARITY OF THE CARGO PANTS. HOWEVER, ITS MOST DEFINING FEATURE WAS THE AMBITION TO CREATE AN OPPOSING SILHOUETTE FOR MENSWEAR. WITH THE LIKES OF CALVIN KLEIN, HELMUT LANG AND RAF SIMONS, A NEW ERA OF MENSWEAR WAS QUIETLY EMERGING ON THE RUNWAYS FOR THE NEXT DECADE. THIS WAS THE COOL, LESS-IS-MORE ATTITUDE THAT DEFIED THE STYLE — WITH A FOCUS ON SLIM SILHOUETTES THAT ELONGATED A MAN'S BODY.

TODAY, LABELS SUCH AS BOTTEGA VENETA AND PRADA ARE NOW USING THIS LANGUAGE AND MAKING IT THEIR OWN. SLIM, ELONGATED, AND SOMETIMES MONOTONOUS SILHOUETTES ARE NOW DEFINING CODES IN THEIR RESPECTIVE HOUSES. THEY ARE INTERPRETED AS TAPERED LONG PANTS WITH NEVER-ENDING HEMS OR A RETROSPECT OF LONG OUTERWEAR THAT LENGTHENS PROPORTIONS.

The Odyssey's Eye

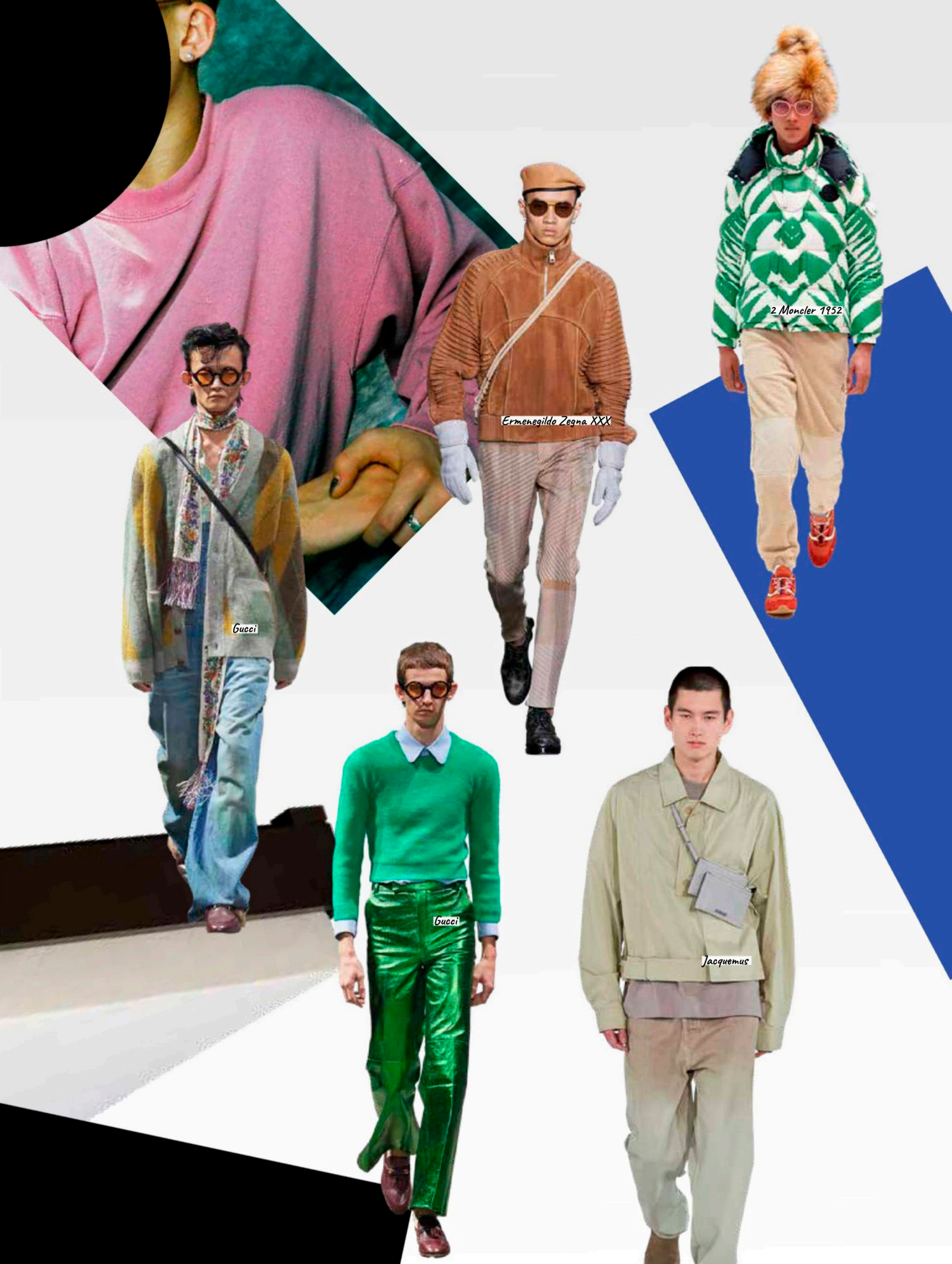
THE APOLLO DAYS OF THE 1960S CHALLENGED SOCIETY TO IMAGINE WHAT THE FUTURE MIGHT HOLD. THUS CAME THE CREATION OF SCIENCE FICTION THAT SHOWCASED HOW FASHION MIGHT APPEAR IN THE 21ST CENTURY. THEY MIGHT HAVE BEEN WRONG, BUT THIS OUTLOOK OF WHAT OUR PRESENT-DAY MIGHT LOOK LIKE HAS CONTINUED TO INFLUENCE FASHION AND ITS TRENDS. THE QUIETLY-INDUSTRIAL, STERILE AND TECHNICAL INFLUENCES THAT OBJECTED FLASHY TRENDS WERE HEAVILY EMPHASISED ON THE MOST AMBITIOUS RUNWAYS FOR FALL/WINTER '20 — SUCH IN THE CASE OF HERMÈS AND BALENCIAGA.

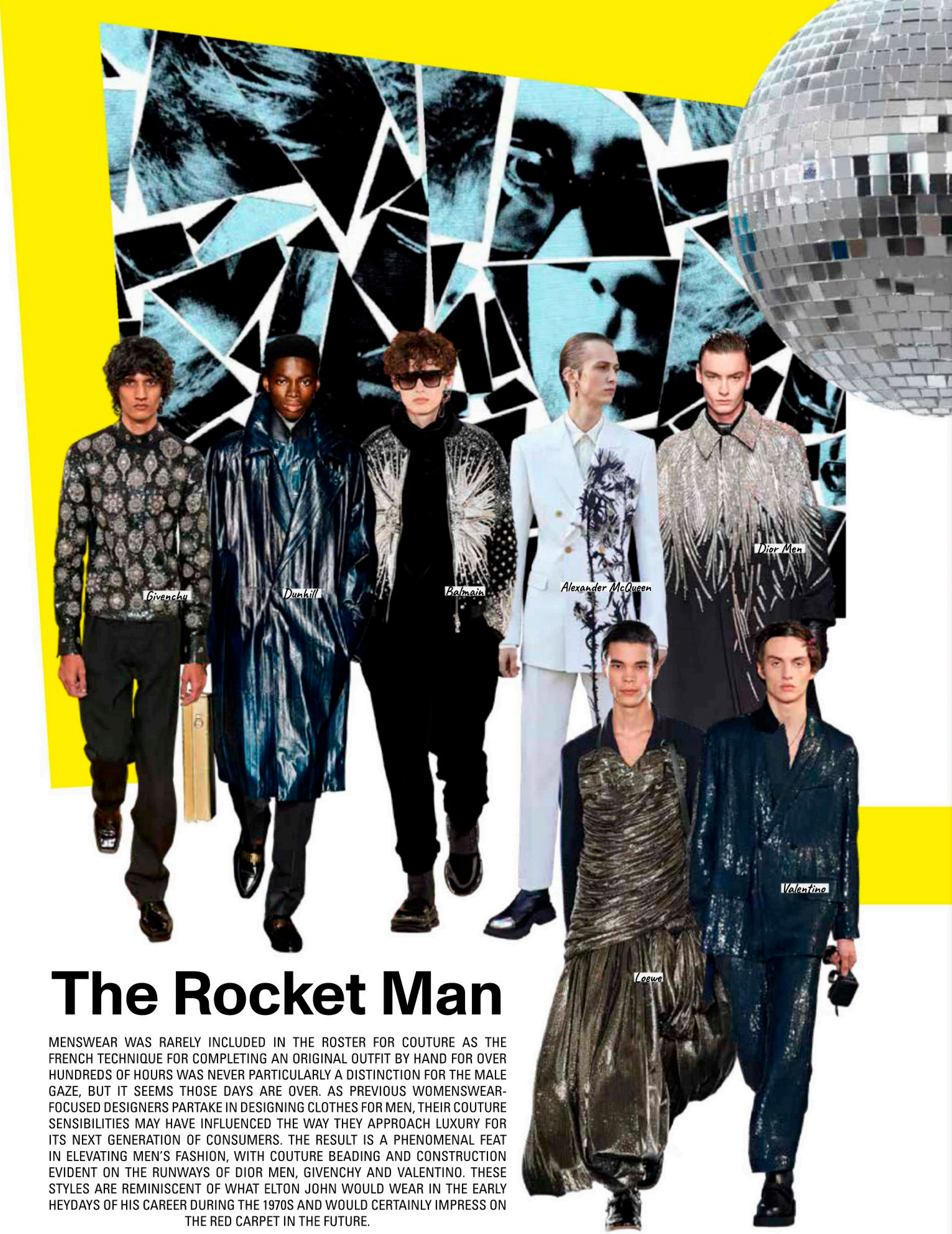

Valentino
Alexander McQueen
Hermès
Wooyoungmi
Craig Green
Emporio Armani
Balenciaga
Fendi
Ermenegildo Zegna XXX
A-Cold-Wall
Bottega Veneta



The Salad Days

BEDROOM POP HAS RISEN IN POPULARITY OVER THE YEARS WITH PROMINENT AVATARS SUCH AS REX ORANGE COUNTY, TORO Y MOI AND KING KRULE. ITS DISTINCT D.I.Y. NATURE OF INDEPENDENCE IN MAKING MUSIC HAS CAPTURED THE HEARTS OF LATE MILLENNIALS OVER THE INTERNET AND TIKTOK. ITS HANDMADE QUALITIES TO MAKING MUSIC HAS ALSO INFLUENCED ITS FASHION AS WELL. THIS INCLUDES LOLLAPALOOZA-READY STYLES FROM VARIOUS DECADES THAT ARE QUIRKY, CASUAL AND SOMETIMES FUNKY, THROWN TOGETHER FROM VARIOUS TRENDS OF THE LAST FIVE DECADES. WHILE IT IS HARD TO POINT A SPECIFIC TREND IT WAS INFLUENCED BY, LOOKS FROM LABELS SUCH AS ERMENEGILDO ZEGNA XXX AND HOMME PLISSÉ ISSEY MIYAKE SURE FITS THE BILL.


2 Moncler 1952
Ermenegildo Zegna XXX
Gucci
Gucci
Jacquemus

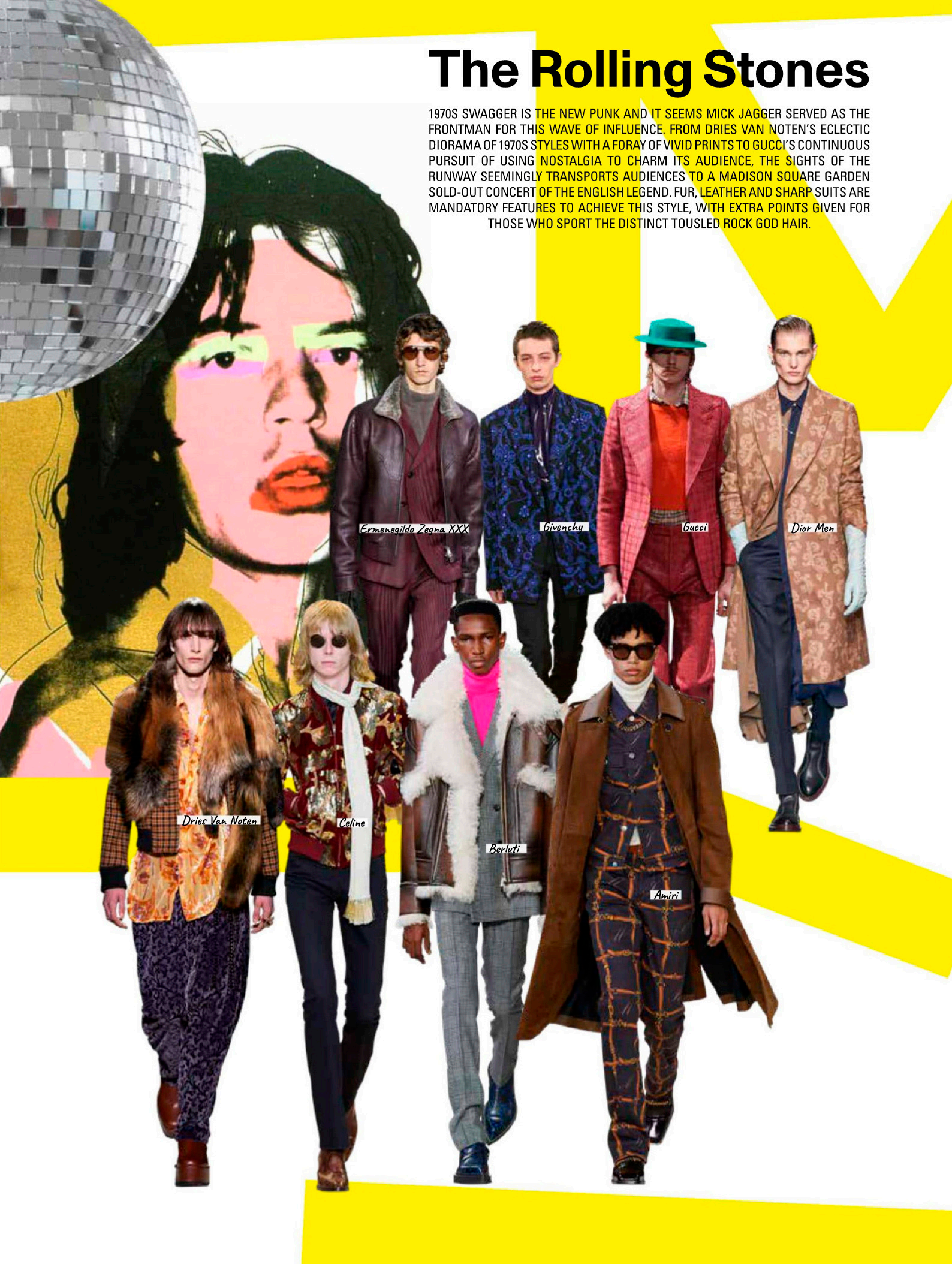


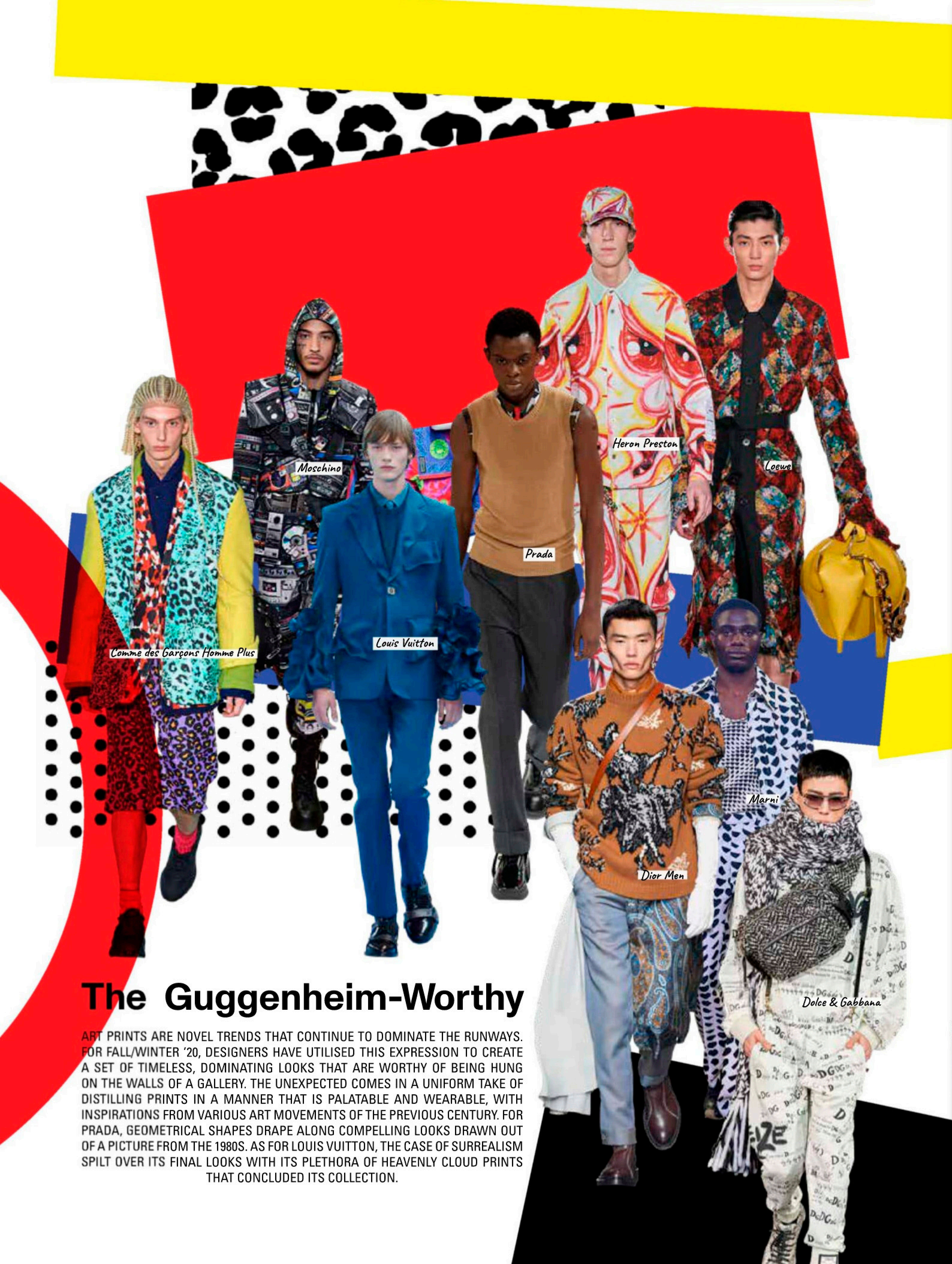
The Rocket Man

MENSWEAR WAS RARELY INCLUDED IN THE ROSTER FOR COUTURE AS THE FRENCH TECHNIQUE FOR COMPLETING AN ORIGINAL OUTFIT BY HAND FOR OVER HUNDREDS OF HOURS WAS NEVER PARTICULARLY A DISTINCTION FOR THE MALE GAZE, BUT IT SEEMS THOSE DAYS ARE OVER. AS PREVIOUS WOMENSWEAR-FOCUSED DESIGNERS PARTAKE IN DESIGNING CLOTHES FOR MEN, THEIR COUTURE SENSIBILITIES MAY HAVE INFLUENCED THE WAY THEY APPROACH LUXURY FOR ITS NEXT GENERATION OF CONSUMERS. THE RESULT IS A PHENOMENAL FEAT IN ELEVATING MEN'S FASHION, WITH COUTURE BEADING AND CONSTRUCTION EVIDENT ON THE RUNWAYS OF DIOR MEN, GIVENCHY AND VALENTINO. THESE STYLES ARE REMINISCENT OF WHAT ELTON JOHN WOULD WEAR IN THE EARLY HEYDAYS OF HIS CAREER DURING THE 1970S AND WOULD CERTAINLY IMPRESS ON THE RED CARPET IN THE FUTURE.

The Rolling Stones

1970S SWAGGER IS THE NEW PUNK AND IT SEEMS MICK JAGGER SERVED AS THE FRONTMAN FOR THIS WAVE OF INFLUENCE. FROM DRIES VAN NOTEN'S ECLECTIC DIORAMA OF 1970S STYLES WITH A FORAY OF VIVID PRINTS TO GUCCI'S CONTINUOUS PURSUIT OF USING NOSTALGIA TO CHARM ITS AUDIENCE, THE SIGHTS OF THE RUNWAY SEEMINGLY TRANSPORTS AUDIENCES TO A MADISON SQUARE GARDEN SOLD-OUT CONCERT OF THE ENGLISH LEGEND. FUR, LEATHER AND SHARP SUITS ARE MANDATORY FEATURES TO ACHIEVE THIS STYLE, WITH EXTRA POINTS GIVEN FOR THOSE WHO SPORT THE DISTINCT TOUSLED ROCK GOD HAIR.


Ermenegildo Zegna XXX
Givenchy
Gucci
Dior Men
Dries Van Noten
Celine
Berluti
Amiri


Heron Preston
Loewe
Moschino
Prada
Louis Vuitton
Comme des Garçons Homme Plus
Marni
Dior Men
Dolce & Gabbana

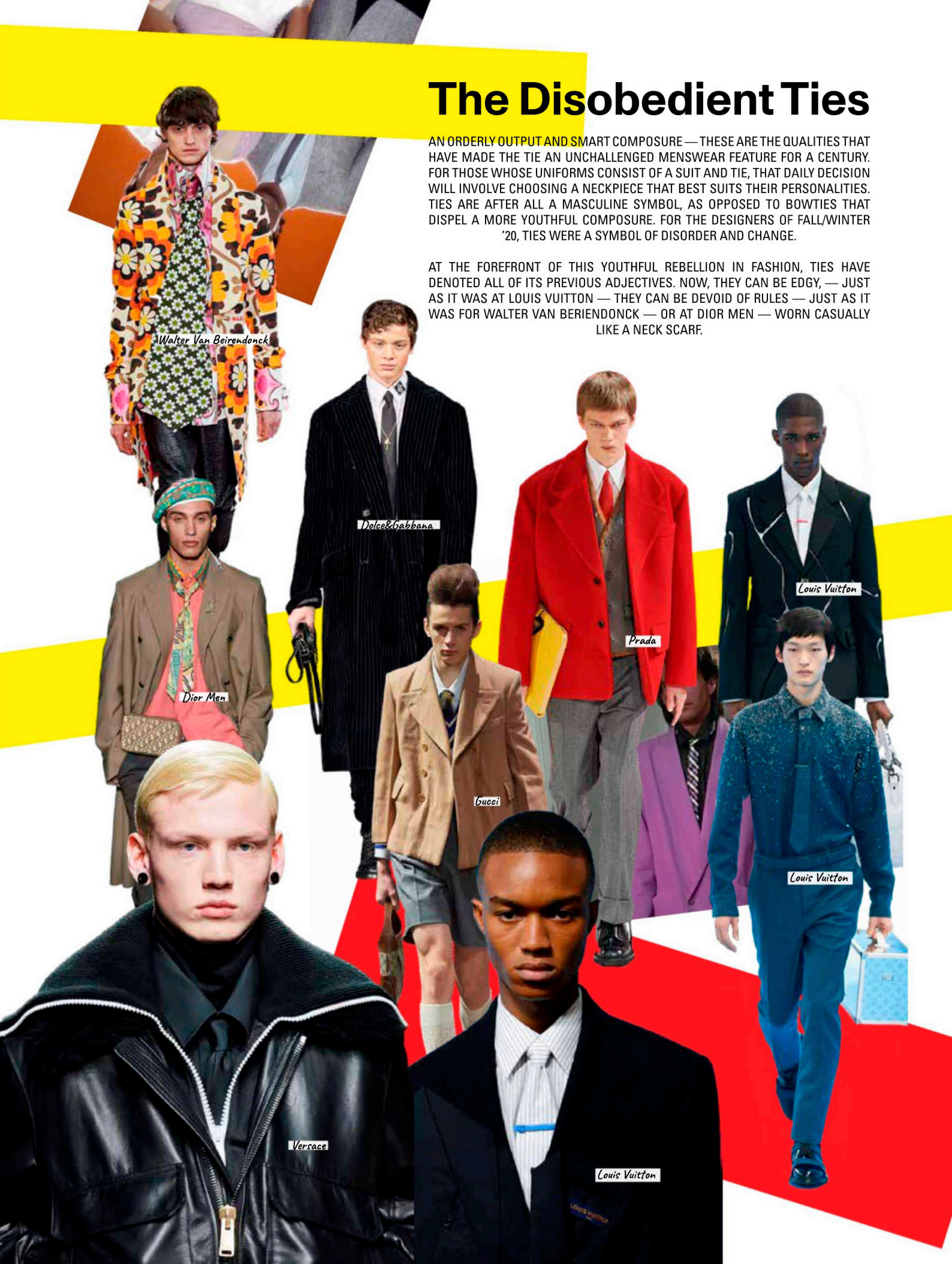
The Guggenheim-Worthy

ART PRINTS ARE NOVEL TRENDS THAT CONTINUE TO DOMINATE THE RUNWAYS. FOR FALL/WINTER '20, DESIGNERS HAVE UTILISED THIS EXPRESSION TO CREATE A SET OF TIMELESS, DOMINATING LOOKS THAT ARE WORTHY OF BEING HUNG ON THE WALLS OF A GALLERY. THE UNEXPECTED COMES IN A UNIFORM TAKE OF DISTILLING PRINTS IN A MANNER THAT IS PALATABLE AND WEARABLE, WITH INSPIRATIONS FROM VARIOUS ART MOVEMENTS OF THE PREVIOUS CENTURY. FOR PRADA, GEOMETRICAL SHAPES DRAPE ALONG COMPELLING LOOKS DRAWN OUT OF A PICTURE FROM THE 1980S. AS FOR LOUIS VUITTON, THE CASE OF SURREALISM SPILT OVER ITS FINAL LOOKS WITH ITS PLETHORA OF HEAVENLY CLOUD PRINTS THAT CONCLUDED ITS COLLECTION.

The Disobedient Ties

AN ORDERLY OUTPUT AND SMART COMPOSURE — THESE ARE THE QUALITIES THAT HAVE MADE THE TIE AN UNCHALLENGED MENSWEAR FEATURE FOR A CENTURY. FOR THOSE WHOSE UNIFORMS CONSIST OF A SUIT AND TIE, THAT DAILY DECISION WILL INVOLVE CHOOSING A NECKPIECE THAT BEST SUITS THEIR PERSONALITIES. TIES ARE AFTER ALL A MASCULINE SYMBOL, AS OPPOSED TO BOWTIES THAT DISPEL A MORE YOUTHFUL COMPOSURE. FOR THE DESIGNERS OF FALL/WINTER '20, TIES WERE A SYMBOL OF DISORDER AND CHANGE.

AT THE FOREFRONT OF THIS YOUTHFUL REBELLION IN FASHION, TIES HAVE DENOTED ALL OF ITS PREVIOUS ADJECTIVES. NOW, THEY CAN BE EDGY, — JUST AS IT WAS AT LOUIS VUITTON — THEY CAN BE DEVOID OF RULES — JUST AS IT WAS FOR WALTER VAN BERIENDONCK — OR AT DIOR MEN — WORN CASUALLY LIKE A NECK SCARF.


Walter Van Beirendonck
Dolce&Gabbana
Louis Vuitton
Prada
Dior Men
Gucci
Louis Vuitton
Versace
Louis Vuitton

Dolce & Gabbana

JW Anderson

Dior Men

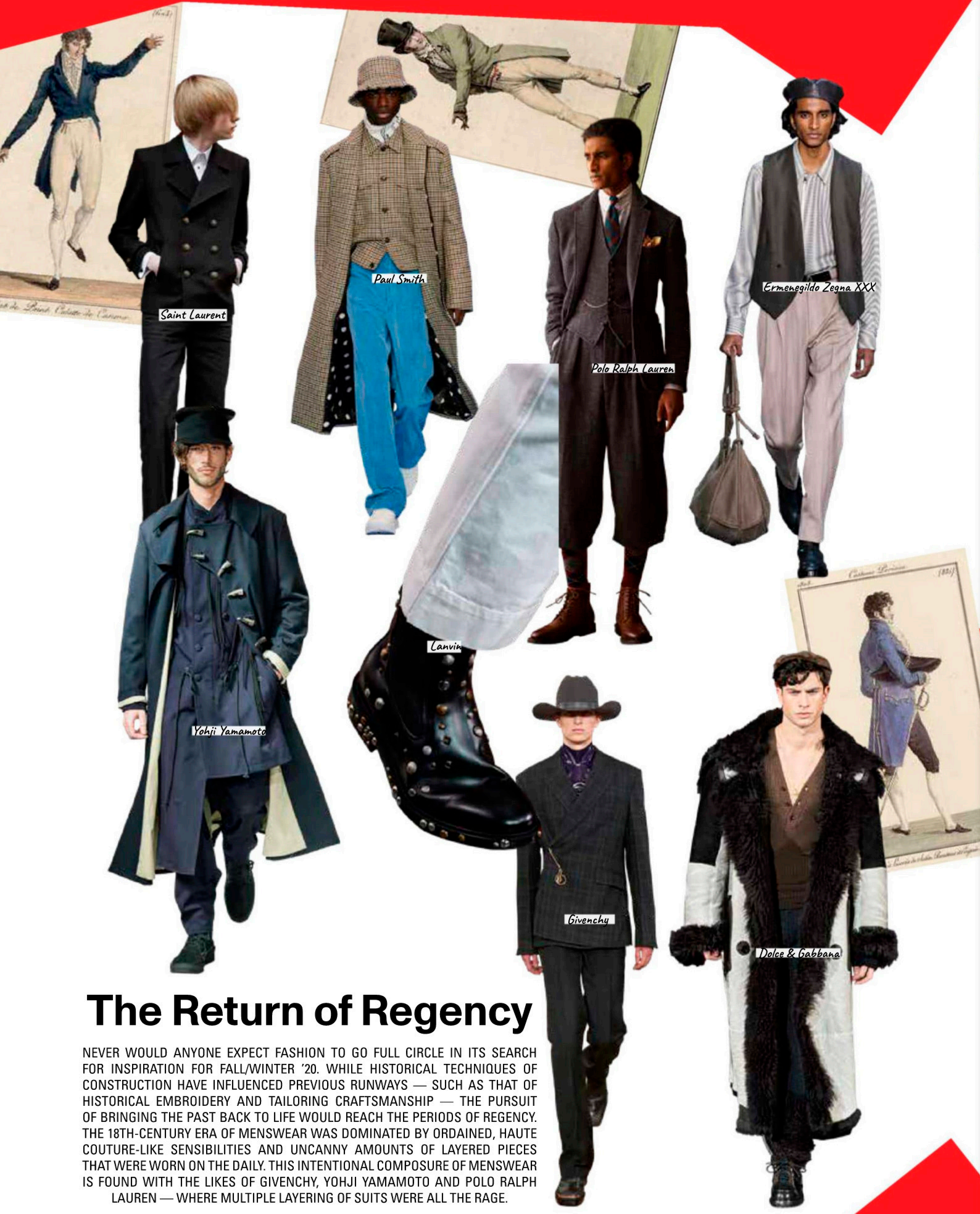
Bottega Veneta

The Democracy of Roundness

IF THERE IS ONE THING ABOUT THE BAGS OF FALL/WINTER '20 THAT PROVES THE LINE BETWEEN MASCULINE AND EFFEMINATE BAGS ARE BLURRED, IT IS THAT DESIGNERS HAVE OPTED TO SOFTEN THE SILHOUETTE OF THEIR BAGS. FORGET THE BOXINESS OF BRIEFCASES, SHARPNESS OF DUFFLES AND GEOMETRICAL CONFIGURATION OF CLUTCHES. ENTER THE AGE OF BAGS THAT ARE SOFT IN SILHOUETTE — AND ROUND IN ALL THE MOST AMBITIOUS WAYS.

IT RECALLS A TIME WHEN POCKETS WERE YET TO BE INVENTED BEFORE THE 17TH CENTURY AND BAGS WERE WORN AS A MEANS TO HOLD ONE'S BELONGINGS — AND THEY WERE ROUND. ANNULAR-LIKE ANGLES ARE FUNDAMENTAL RULES FOR THE MAKING OF A DIOR SADDLE, THIS TIME UNOPPOSED IN ITS SIZE. FOR BOTTEGA VENETA, A CLUTCH NO LONGER FEELS HARD AND FIRM IN ONE'S HANDS — IT NOW ALSO DOUBLES UP AS A PILLOW.

Louis Vuitton


Saint Laurent
Paul Smith
Polo Ralph Lauren
Ermenegildo Zegna XXX
Lanvin
Yohji Yamamoto
Givenchy
Dolce & Gabbana

The Return of Regency

NEVER WOULD ANYONE EXPECT FASHION TO GO FULL CIRCLE IN ITS SEARCH FOR INSPIRATION FOR FALL/WINTER '20. WHILE HISTORICAL TECHNIQUES OF CONSTRUCTION HAVE INFLUENCED PREVIOUS RUNWAYS — SUCH AS THAT OF HISTORICAL EMBROIDERY AND TAILORING CRAFTSMANSHIP — THE PURSUIT OF BRINGING THE PAST BACK TO LIFE WOULD REACH THE PERIODS OF REGENCY. THE 18TH-CENTURY ERA OF MENSWEAR WAS DOMINATED BY ORDAINED, HAUTE COUTURE-LIKE SENSIBILITIES AND UNCANNY AMOUNTS OF LAYERED PIECES THAT WERE WORN ON THE DAILY. THIS INTENTIONAL COMPOSURE OF MENSWEAR IS FOUND WITH THE LIKES OF GIVENCHY, YOHJI YAMAMOTO AND POLO RALPH LAUREN — WHERE MULTIPLE LAYERING OF SUITS WERE ALL THE RAGE.

The Boot Camp

THE GOOD-OLD BOOT IS A FUNDAMENTAL WARDROBE PIECE FOR ANY MODERN MAN DURING THE FALL SEASONS. SO HOW ELSE CAN DESIGNERS TAKE A CLASSIC AND TURN IT INTO AN EXCEPTIONAL SHOWSTOPPER? THE ANSWER LIES IN APPLYING SUBTLE INSPIRATION FROM THE PAST. FOR BOTTEGA VENETA, THE BOOTS FEATURE AN UNEXPECTED TWIST — LITERALLY. ITS FALL/WINTER '20 FOOTWEAR FEATURES A DISTINCTIVE TWISTED HEELED SOLE THAT IS REMINISCENT OF 18TH-CENTURY FOOTWEAR WORN BY ARISTOCRATS. AS FOR DIOR MEN, ITS 1990S MONOGRAM PRINT IS SUBTLY TRANSFIXED ON THE ELASTIC SIDE PANEL, RECALLING FOOTWEAR WORN IN THE EARLY 20TH-CENTURY DURING WINTER. IF THAT IS NOT ENOUGH, GIVENCHY TURNS TO THE METAL TOE CAP BOOTS FROM THE DAYS OF THE MANUFACTURING BOOM BY PLACING THE METAL CAP ON THE EXTERIOR.

Hermès

Dior Men

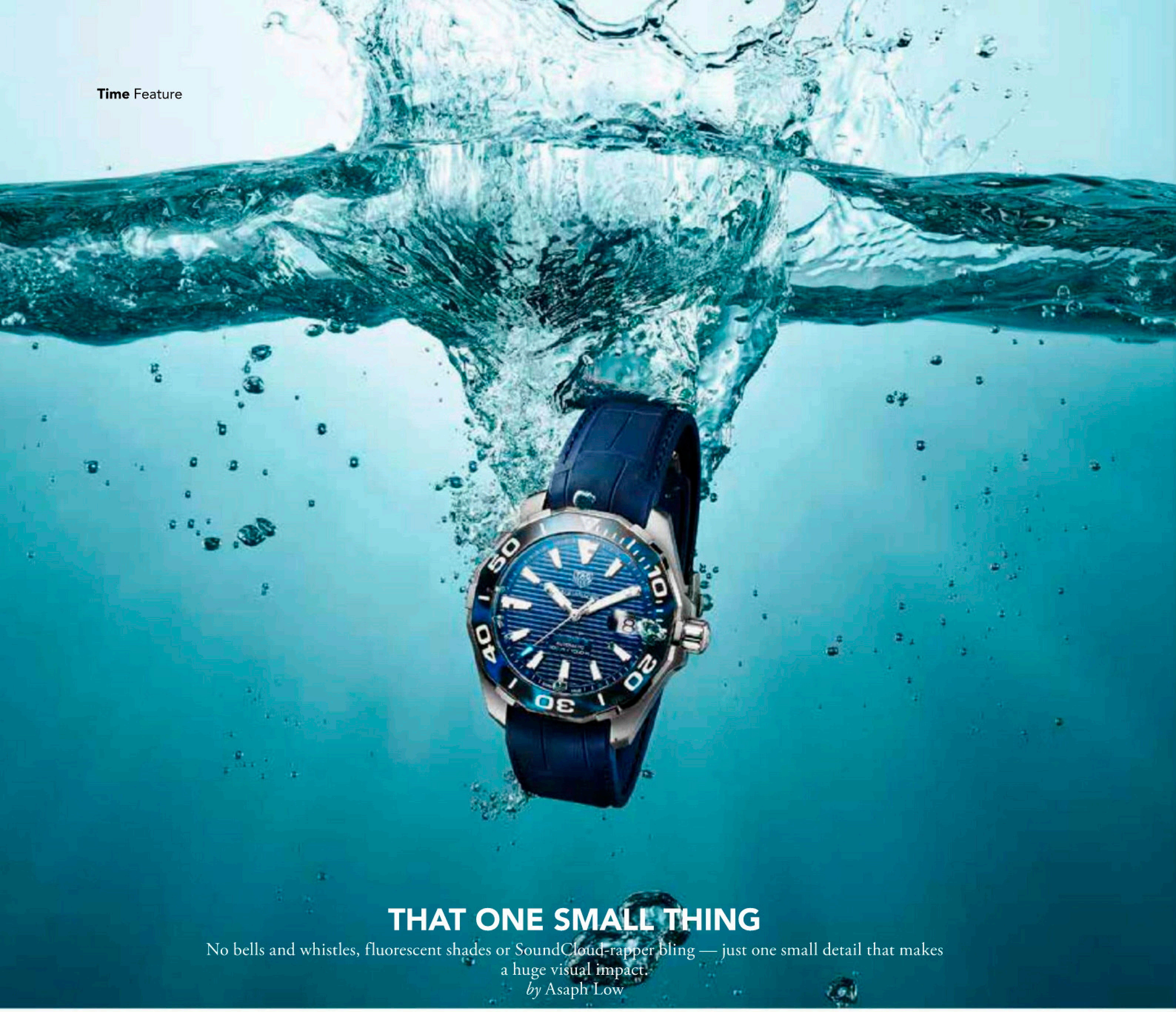
Lanvin

Givenchy

Bottega Veneta

Louis Vuitton

Dolce&Gabbana



THAT ONE SMALL THING

No bells and whistles, fluorescent shades or SoundCloud-rapper bling — just one small detail that makes a huge visual impact.

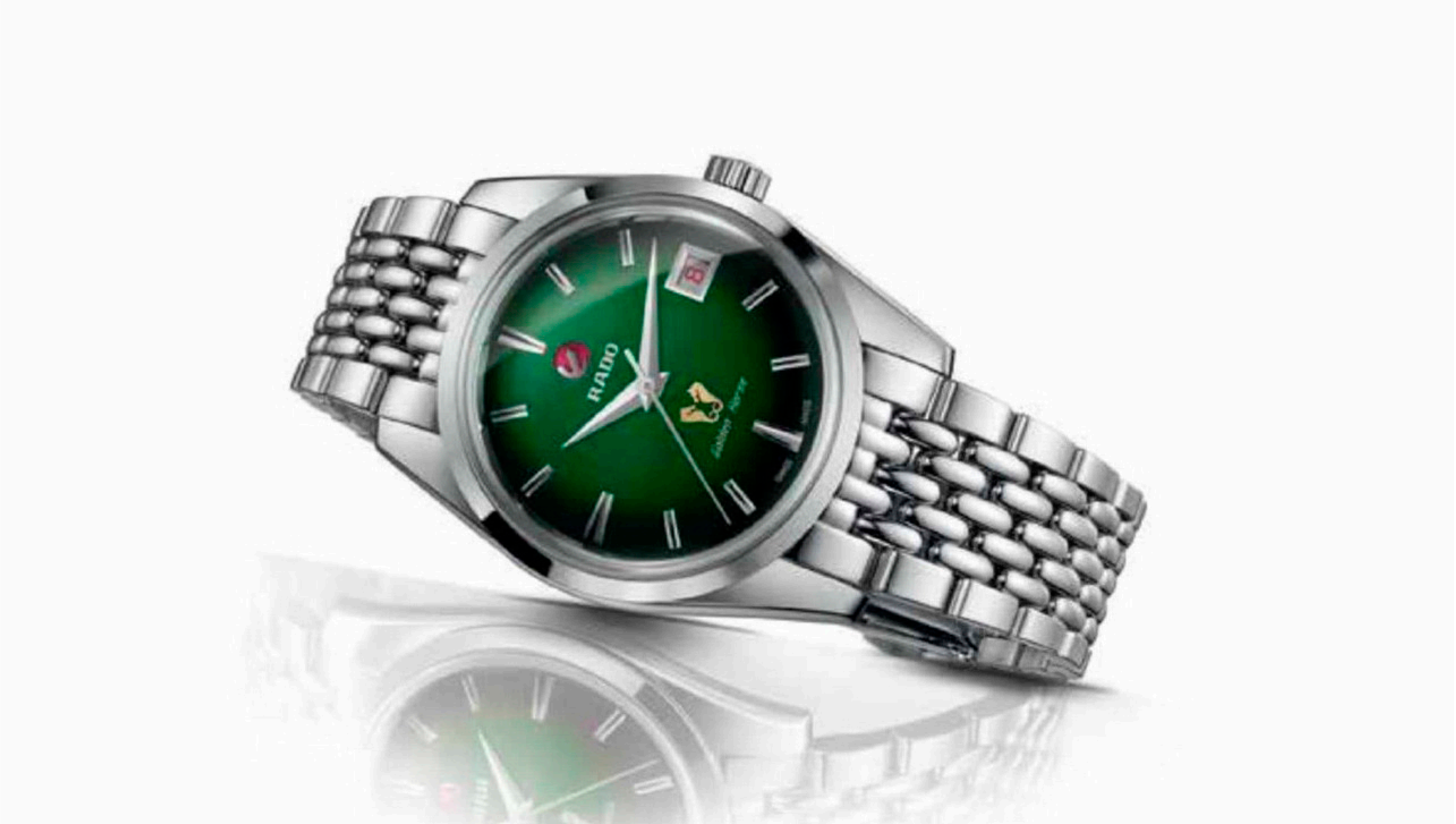
by Asaph Low

COLOUR STREAKS — TAG HEUER

The beauty of the ocean and its symbiotic relationship with the TAG Heuer Aquaracer is exemplified by a captivating tortoise shell resin bezel. TAG Heuer's innovative use of the resin bezel represents a first for the manufacture and is a testimony of its Swiss Avant-Garde DNA. Replete with a dark and light blue-hued tortoise shell bezel, the colour streaks are reminiscent of sun rays reflecting off ocean waves. A complementive blue sunray-finished panelled dial serves to highlight the relationship of the 300m water-resistant Aquaracer and water sports. TAG Heuer's penchant for legibility sees the use of large hands and luminescent-filled applied indices.

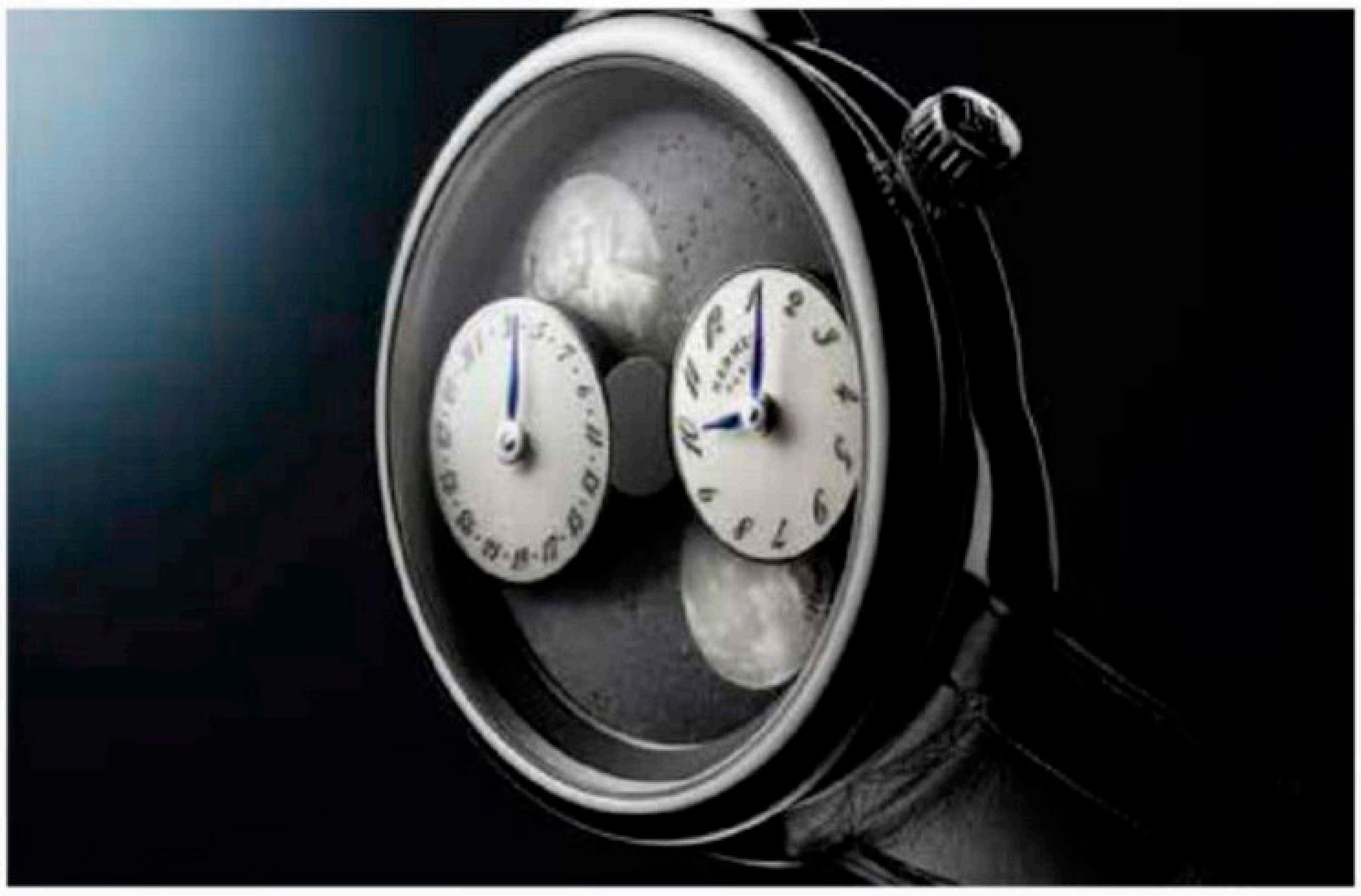
OBSCURED TRANSPARENCY — SWATCH

The concept of light and colour takes centre stage for the Swatch Big Bold Spectrum as the oversized timepiece takes a quirky twist with its transparent design. Based on the concept of the 1983 transparent Swatch Jelly Fish, the Big Bold Spectrum presents a semi-transparent case which proudly displays its quartz innards. The choice of black shrouds the movement in mystery that Swatch offsets with an explosion of vibrant colours. Swatch's Solar Spectrum treatment applied within the semi-transparent housing offers a play of colour and light reflection, offering a radically different appearance each time when viewed at various angles. Bright fluo elements on the indexes and watch hands improve legibility and add another dimension of fun.



SWIVELING CHARM — RADO

Functional meets ornamental as the humble Rado anchor proves it is more than just a pretty decoration on the dial of Rado timepieces. Unique to the Swiss brand, the anchor swivels along with the motion of the wrist. Apart from its aesthetic purpose, it also serves as an indicator for watch servicing when the anchor stops rotating. The Rado Golden Horse 1957 Limited Edition is a faithful re-edition of the original Golden Horse released in 1957, prior to the brand's association with high-tech ceramic. Its design is in line with its vintage counterpart with a 37mm case diameter, smokey green dial, seahorse emblems, domed crystal and red-coloured date numerals. The movement powering within is anything but antiqued with its 80-hour power reserve automatic ETA C07 calibre. In tribute to the original edition, the Rado Golden Horse 1957 Limited Edition is limited to 1957 pieces.

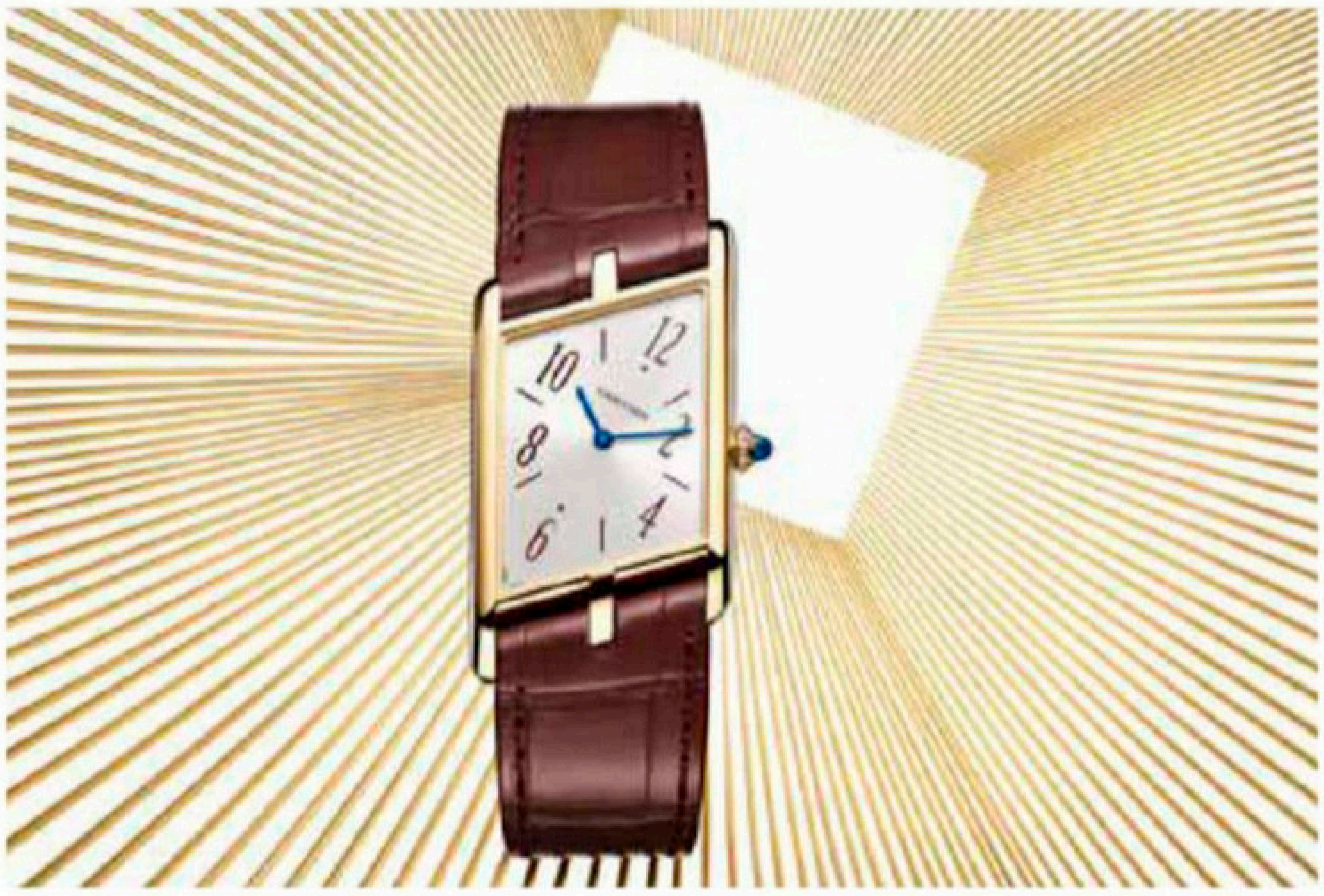


FIFTH ELEMENT — HERMÈS

The imagery of dreamy cosmics is heightened by Hermès as the dial for its double moonphase Arceau L'heure de la lune takes an exotic twist. Black Sahara meteorite — mined from fallen meteors in the Sahara — forms the dial backdrop as a pair of contrasting mother-of-pearl moon counters are set opposite each other. With only 30 examples made, the extraterrestrial dial forged over millions of years in space, exhibits a textured surface that is unique to itself as no two pieces are the same. Unlike traditional moonphase indicators, Hermès opts for a pair of static moon counters and mobile counters (time and date) to display the phases of the moon. As each day passes, the counters traverse the dial in a clockwise direction to reveal both northern and southern hemisphere phases. The ingenious design is made possible by the Hermès Manufacture H1837 movement and Exclusive "L'heure de la lune" module, framed within a 43mm white gold case.

PRECIOUS STONE — CARTIER

The significance of the sapphire cabochon crowns of Cartier timepieces surpasses its exquisite nature as it is a testament to the timelessness of Louis Cartier's creativity and legacy. Dating as far back to the dawn of the 20th century, the precious stone crown first appeared on the Santos-Dumont when Louis Cartier made the timepiece for aviator Alberto Santos-Dumont in 1904. Since then, it has been a hallmark and signature of Cartier timepieces. The Cartier Privé Tank Asymétrique seen here showcases a unique interpretation of the Cartier Tank, offsetting the opposite sides of the rectangular case to present an elongated diamond shape — its dial orientation is rotated to the right as well for a whimsical effect. To avoid any confusion (given the dial layout), a pair of dots can be seen below the 12 and 6 o'clock numerals to aid orientation. The sapphire cabochon crown makes an appearance alongside the yellow gold case limited to 100 pieces.



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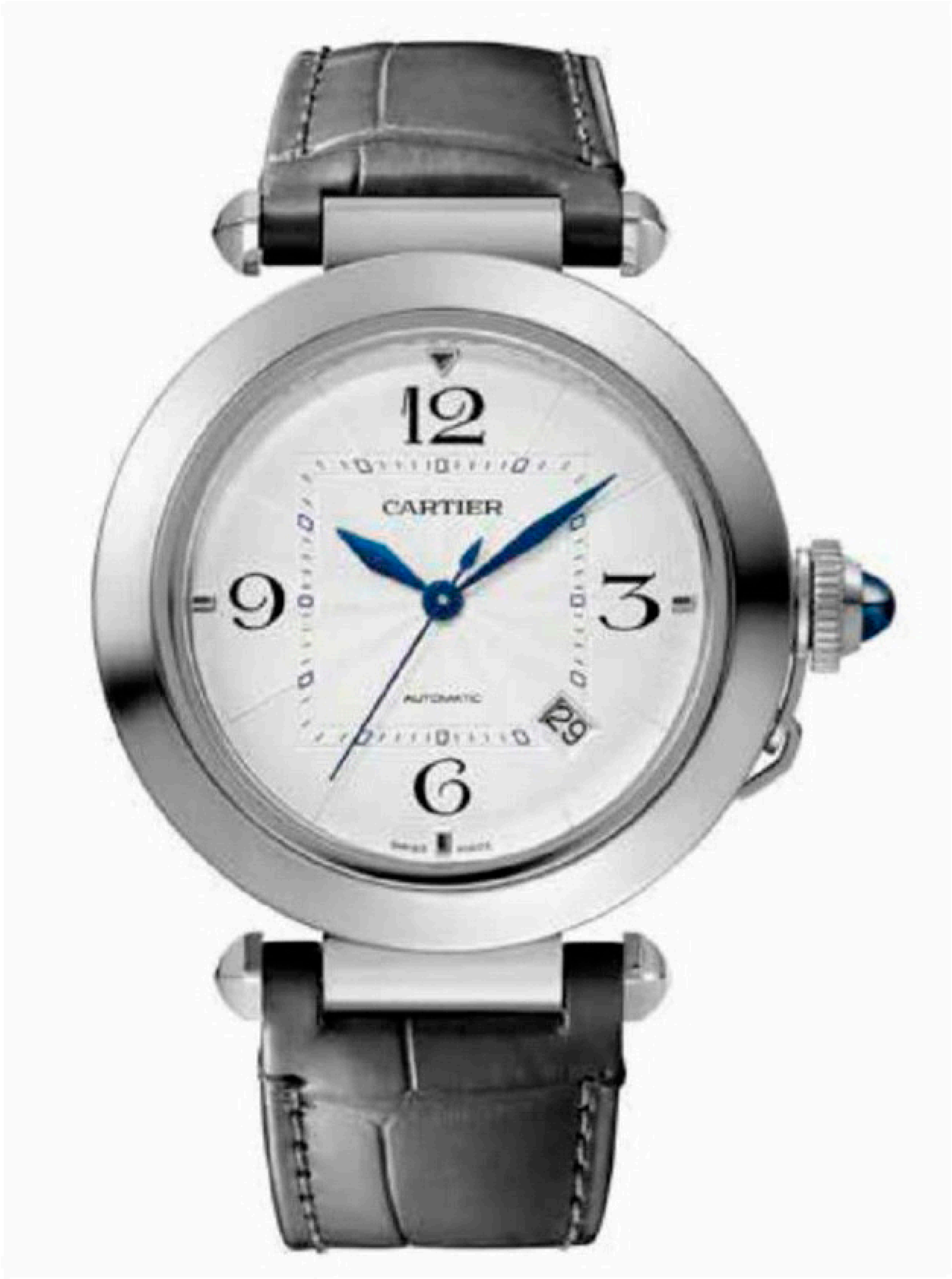


FACE OFF

As the Pasha de Cartier celebrates its 35th anniversary, here are 15 inescapable hallmarks of the iconic Cartier timepiece to prime new fans.

by Asaph Low

1. YEAR OF RELEASE

2020 marks the 35th anniversary of the Pasha de Cartier after its release in 1985.

2. A TRUE OG

1985 also saw the release of the Nintendo Entertainment System, the Sony Discman System and the radio pager — none enjoyed OG status and longevity like the Pasha de Cartier.

4. HISTORICAL INFLUENCE

The Vendome-lugs, designed and patented by Louis Cartier in 1934, forms the foundation of the Pasha de Cartier design blueprint.

5. KEY DESIGN

The chained crown and blue spinel are the inimitable elements of the Pasha de Cartier that are crucial to its iconic look

6. WATER RESISTANCE

The crown cap provided the 1985 version of the Pasha de Cartier with 100 metres of water resistance while retaining its minimal thickness.

7. INDIVIDUALISED

Beneath the crown cover lies a plate that allows initials to be carved for a truly intimate expression of individuality, revealed only when the famous chained crown is unscrewed.

8. GEOMETRY PLAY

The geometrical elements of the square and circle work harmoniously together as seen in the square filigree rail-track surrounded by the circular dial.

9. SEAMLESS TRANSITION

Cartier's invisible QuickSwitch mechanism allows seamless interchangeability of straps and bracelets with a push of a button — the SmartLink system utilised in the bracelet does not require special tools when adjusting the length of the bracelet.

10. IN-HOUSE MOVEMENT

Cartier's in-house 1847 MC automatic calibre powers the Pasha de Cartier to deliver exceptional chronometric performance and the movement can be viewed through the sapphire case back.

11. NON-FERROUS

An integrated paramagnetic alloy shield within the case and non-magnetic nickel phosphorus used in the escapement allows the Pasha de Cartier to resist strong magnetic fields a watch can be exposed in everyday life.

12. TWO SIZES

The Pasha de Cartier is available in two sizes to cater to all wrist sizes — 35mm and 41mm. The 41mm version is differentiated with a date aperture positioned between four and five o'clock.

13. HIGH COMPLICATIONS

Apart from the basic time-only variants, the Pasha de Cartier family comprises of two other complications — a tourbillon and a skeletonised version.

14. ON-SCREEN GENIUS

Multi-award winning thespian Rami Malek is not only the face of the Pasha de Cartier but also represents a new generation of non-conformist, talented individuals who fearlessly express their art. He is joined by Jackson Wang, Maisie Williams, Troye Sivan and Willow Smith.

15. ANOTHER ON-SCREEN GENIUS

American actor, singer and musician Sammy Davis Jr was famous for wearing the Pasha de Cartier — a gift from Frank Sinatra. In fact, he was reportedly buried wearing the watch itself.

IXED MARTIAL ARTS

LIGHT HEAVYWEIGHT

AMIR KHAN, ASSISTANT INSTRUCTOR AND PROFESSIONAL FIGHTER FROM EVOLVE MIXED MARTIAL ARTS WOULD LIKE TO REMIND ONE THAT IT TAKES A BIG MAN TO WEAR A SMALL WATCH.

PHOTOGRAPHY **CHER HIM**
ART DIRECTION **IZWAN ABDULLAH**
STYLING **MANFRED LU**
TEXT **ASAPH LOW**

Fairtex
Fairtex
Fairtex
Fairtex
Fairtex
Fairtex

TAG Heuer Carrera 160 Years Montreal
Limited Edition in stainless steel
with leather strap;
EVOLVE Kevlar Vale Tudo Shorts

Rado True Square Open Heart in high-tech ceramic with matching bracelet; **EVOLVE** Primeiro rash guard, Kevlar Vale Tudo shorts

EVOLVE
ED MARTIAL A

Longines Heritage Classic
in stainless steel with leather strap;
EVOLVE Primeiro rash guard, Kaizen
grappling spats

Omega Seamaster Aqua Terra 150m Co-Axial Master Chronometer 38mm in 18K Sedna Gold and stainless steel with rubber strap; **EVOLVE** Kaizen rash guard

Seiko Presage SSA411J1 in stainless steel with matching bracelet; **EVOLVE** Muay Thai Warrior hoodie

Photography Assistant **Zhan Hong**
Grooming **Priscelia Wong** using **NARS** and **KEVIN.MURPHY**
Location **Evolve MMA (Far East Square)**

SHOPHOUSE PRIDE

A dedicated love for shophouses is how CEO and co-founder of Figment, Fang Wei Low is knocking out his co-living competitors.

by Fang Wei Low

"Oh my. What a total knock-out. A complete stunner! I spotted her on a drive past the corner of a block and I couldn't help but gawk out of the windshield of my car. Judging by the number of heads being turned, she has most definitely caused a few accidents by now."

All dressed up in beautiful green and purple lace-like frills with a smashing red outline bordering some classic Chinese motifs — my favourite Sim Kwong Ho shophouse in the Balestier neighborhood, done up in the "Singapore Eclectic" style.

You might spot the freshly painted neon green shophouse just down the road that almost glows in the dark. Or, high up on Emerald Hill, you might have already glimpsed the stripy shophouse that looks like it came out of a Paul Smith catalog.

Feel free to ask the tourists snapping away at the pastel coloured Grand Dames on Joo Chiat, and yes, they will tell you that our Singapore shophouses are that sensational. I am also guessing that you have probably been on a night out on Club Street or Keong Saik Road, all decked out with shophouses along the way.

These are not mere mortals. Many have now been conferred conservation status by our urban warriors at the URA and immortalised to stand the test of time — the epitome of timeless fashion that dates back to before our nation's independence.

However, did you know that you could actually live in them? Residential shophouses are pretty rare and I have painstakingly counted 857 throughout the whole of Singapore which is not too different from browsing a limited edition Supreme catalogue.

I grew up in one on Blair Road in the Tanjong Pagar district, down the road from the shophouse where Lee Kuan Yew once lived. She was a black and white, baroque-style shophouse that barely accommodated our three-generation Chinese household, albeit stuffed to the brim not just with people, but with a variety of antiques and art that my parents had hauled back from around the world.

So you see, for me, these shophouses first and foremost are homes.

I actually prefer the term "boutique homes". Boutique because they are intimate and exclusive and also, because they are design-led. Moreover, these homes truly are a one-of-a-kind embodiment of our Singaporean cultural character.

Take the facades of the pre-war Chinese Baroque shophouses on Petain Road, Little India for example — Islamic rain eaves, Japanese-manufactured Peranakan tiles, European-inspired Corinthian pillars and Chinese "Jian-nian" stuccoes of mythical beasts all at once.

This is, quite literally, Singapore.

Of course, beauty is never just brick-deep. Her personality did not just end with her curb appeal although influencers and newly-weds searching for the perfect photo opportunity would beg to differ.

There is so much more going on inside. I have been lucky to catch voyeuristic glimpses of many such shophouse interiors — think roman pools, solariums and even hanging gardens. That shophouse that was my childhood home? Well, I decided to have it re-designed as Figment's Canvas House in collaboration with the highly acclaimed Ministry of Design.

It was total and complete creative destruction. Visitors to this reused adaptive project are now treated to breathtaking all-white interiors that invite perspectives from the past, present and future.

With the relentless advance of technology and its ruthless efficiency, we are now treated daily to dull, cookie-cutter glass and steel skyscrapers that look like they were designed by accountants rather than architects.

In constantly maximising rental yields and GFA (Gross Floor Area) for any new construction, our builders seem to be more informed by profits and market competition than by our culture and values. The recent Pearl Bank teardown says it all.

I cannot believe I had endured these many years of Singapore as a massive construction site, all just for this?

What does the act of living in such copied-and-pasted condos do to us everyday? We inhabit our homes, much like we inhabit our clothes, cars we drive, or the roles and occupations we perform.

These behaviours exert a certain pressure on us and lend us a certain identity that might or might not fit with our existing self-images. Well, guess what?

These identities eventually work their way from the outside in and become our new selves! We do not just perform our roles and inhabit our homes daily, we actually internalise and grow into them.

Now, these shophouses might come across as old-fashioned and wasteful, but each one is meaningful as a work of art in its own right. This reminds me of Dreyfus' idea on "works of art" that focus and hold up to a culture on what counts as a life worth aspiring to.

Works of art gather practices together to focus and manifest a way of life, embodying the truth of their world. In elevating the routine to the ritual, how uplifting it is when we come home at the end of the day to a shophouse with such character?

Now that I have met her, there is no more going back to a life of Singapore Sim City-ism. My muse, she not only inspires me to reimagine how Singapore can be, but also grounds me within my local community.

What can I say, I am (shop)house-proud.

Fang Wei Low is the CEO & co-founder of Figment.

POT OF GOLD

How does one turn a pot of gold into a wealth empire or as they say, "turning your rainy day fund into an ocean of wealth"? Gregory Van, the founding partner of Endowus traces the steps to the yellow brick road.

by Gregory Van

Safe and sound investing might seem like rocket science to some but there is no need to feel intimidated — the key is to focus on long-term wealth building rather than worrying about short-term fluctuations in the market.

In fact, everything in life is like an investment! While there are definitely associated risks, there are two important things to remember to be a successful investor: first, remain committed to your wealth plan, even through periods of uncertainty and volatility; and second, be fully invested in the markets across all your money — including cash savings, CPF, and the Supplementary Retirement Scheme (SRS).

The most important investment decisions one make actually might be some of the simplest, as long as you follow these five golden rules.

1. UNDERSTAND YOUR RISK APPETITE

While most of us are inundated with the vast amount of information available, the key is to understand the fundamentals and yourself. The only way to really understand your risk tolerance is to be invested and experience loss. Be humble, read about the forces that move markets and be honest with yourself — it is important to stay focused on wealth building instead of being a speculator focused on short-term fluctuations.

2. DIVERSIFY YOUR PORTFOLIO

COVID-19 has shown how deeply impacted livelihoods and businesses can be in a short span of time, affecting even the largest global industries like retail, energy and even travel. This reminds us that we should not put all our investment eggs into one basket — we need to be diversified in our portfolio to safeguard against making the wrong "bet" to avoid getting wiped out. Instead, you should use the power of markets to your advantage, and also invest in industries like E-commerce, streaming sites and other digital businesses that have surged forward during this period.

3. DON'T BE DISTRACTED

Market fluctuations, economies suffering, trade wars brewing — all these factors might cause you to rethink the efficacy of your wealth approach. However, the pivotal thing to keep in mind is that these macro conditions are largely out of anybody's control! Even professionals who monitor the market on a daily basis struggle to outguess the market! Hence, the best strategy is to be rational and unwavering in all market conditions in order for you to reach your goals.

4. DON'T TIME THE MARKET

Sometimes we are limited in our ability to execute an investment because we are either scared to lose money (fear), or because we feel that we can buy it at a lower price and achieve greater returns (greed). A common question our investors ask is, "Where are we headed from here?" The answer is that nobody knows in the short term but that is not why we invest — investing is playing the long game. By utilising a strategic and passive low-cost investment strategy, investors who have stayed the course — especially those that stuck to their long-term wealth plan — have won and will continue to win.

5. STAY INVESTED

As we make our way through this period of heightened volatility, the one thing we have seen through empirical evidence and historical precedence is that spending time in markets is more important than timing the market. Once you have an investment plan that is suitable for your behaviour and your goals, you need to also look at being fully invested — and remain invested — across all cash savings, CPF, and SRS. This is the best way to get your money to work for you and maximise your wealth.

Wealth is important to enabling your life, so it is important to get it right from the start. This will not only help you live easier today so you can focus on personal growth and your loved ones, but also better prepare you for tomorrow and the future.

After all, investing is not about dipping a toe into the water but making a meaningful and long-term impact on your life. As Warren Buffett famously said, "Someone's sitting in the shade today because someone planted a tree a long time ago."

Gregory Van is the founding partner of Endowus, one of Singapore's leading MAS-licensed platforms and the first and only digital advisor for the Central Provident Fund (CPF).

DUO LINGO

The Tissot Seastar merges style and performance without compromise, these men have likewise blended both elements into their everyday lives as they embark on a journey without compromise.

Photography **Jeff Chang** Text **Asaph Low** Styling **Bryan Goh**

Wesley Ee
Financial Consultant (@chipster_wes)

What is the biggest compliment from your clients? They tell me that they trust me because I'm accountable for what I say — things that I promise, I deliver. **Clothes are an expression of one's style, what do you think of today's outfit?** Today's outfit is different from what I usually wear because in my line of work, I'm mostly in suits. I think I'm still a basics kind of guy. **The Tissot Seastar 1000 was picked as an accessory to complete the outfit, what do you think about it?** The watch itself is very attractive because of its bracelet and locking mechanism. Also, because of its green dial that contrasts and complements nicely against the black bezel. **The Tissot Seastar 1000 combines both style and performance without compromise, what comes to mind when you think about both aspects?** I'm more of a sporty kind of person and I like a good watch that firstly, is rugged enough to withstand daily wear and the sports I do. And also, has a sense of class — it has to look good even when I wear it with a suit. **How would you combine style and performance into your daily life?** My daily life already combines both style and performance! **What physical activities do you regularly engage in to stay fit?** My form of activities are very balanced in the sense that I go to the gym every day for an hour and a half and I try to run five times a week to up my cardiovascular endurance. **What is your secret to leading a positive, balanced and healthy lifestyle?** In my opinion, it's not about having a healthy work-life balance — it's about work-life integration where I can have both my work, career and personal life all integrated seamlessly without one having more priority than the other. **Does living a healthy and active lifestyle come by choice or necessity?** It's a conscious decision ones make if he wants a good quality of life. Health was the last thing on my mind when I decided to shed the extra weight. I just wanted to feel more confident in myself — it was a choice. **For someone looking to kickstart a journey in physical fitness, where should he begin?** I'd tell them to remove all of the unnecessary things that they're currently eating or drinking. I usually tell them to cut out the additional calories from drinks and replace it with water, diet soda, green tea or black tea or coffee.

(On Wesley) **Tissot** Seastar 1000 Powermatic 80 in stainless steel with steel bracelet; **Sandro** Denim jacket with shearling collar, wool knit turtleneck
(On Jay) **Tissot** Seastar 1000 Chronograph in stainless steel with rubber strap **Brunello Cucinelli** Nappa leather coat with shearling collar; **Onitsuka Tiger** Wool knit turtleneck

Grooming and Hair **Sha Shamsi** using **Dior Beauty and Hanz de Fuko**

Jay-Hykel Jailani

Personal trainer and rugby coach (@jayhykel)

Tell us about yourself. I recently became a personal trainer and I do outdoor bootcamps while coaching kids rugby on the side at the SCC Rugby Academy. In my free time, I play rugby for the national team and also, Club Rugby. **Clothes are an expression of one's style, what do you think of today's outfit?** I think it's loud and I love layering. **The Tissot Seastar 1000 was picked as an accessory to complete the outfit, what do you think about it?** I think this one is the icing on the cake for one's dressing. It shows the character of a man and overall, it made me feel complete — especially with the outfit. **The Tissot Seastar 1000 combines both style and performance without compromise, what comes to mind when you think about both aspects?** You need the best of both worlds and you don't have to worry about either when it comes to this watch — it comes with style and the functionality of a diver watch so it ticks all the right boxes for me. **How would you combine style and performance into your daily life?** I try to combine the athleisure style with pieces from COS, Nike, Adidas and stuff and when I wear black, I've got to wear all black and likewise if I'm wearing white. You don't get to express yourself a lot as a trainer but your shoes, socks and shorts are where you get to show your sense of style. **What physical activities do you regularly engage in to stay fit?** I gym every other day and I go for runs on the weekend. I work on Anson Road and I cycle everywhere. Other than that, I love doing runs on the fields — more sprints as I'm not a fan of long distance running. **What is your secret to leading a positive, balanced and healthy lifestyle?** I believe in the 70/30 rule in everything I do — 70% is being health conscious and 30% is giving-and-taking. For the former, I'm either walking or exercising and the latter, I'm either taking a Grab car or lazing around. **Did living a healthy and active lifestyle come by choice or necessity?** It has to be a necessity which could also be your choice. I wanted an active lifestyle to be my job where I could also make a change in peoples' lives. **For someone looking to kickstart a journey in physical fitness, where should he begin?** He should look for a class or a sport that he knows he'll have fun with. But I feel that as a closing statement, fitness should be multi-faceted.

THREE ON SPEED

Blue, the hue of confidence; white, the fresh state of mental clarity; and black, the shade of power and strength — the colours form the LAB SERIES Rescue Water Series while their connotations represent these three sportsmen's way of life.

Photography **Jeff Chang** Styling & Text **Bryan Goh**
Styling Assistant **Manfred Lu** Grooming & Hair **Larry Yeo** using **LAB SERIES** and **Hanz de Fuko**

LOH KEAN YEW

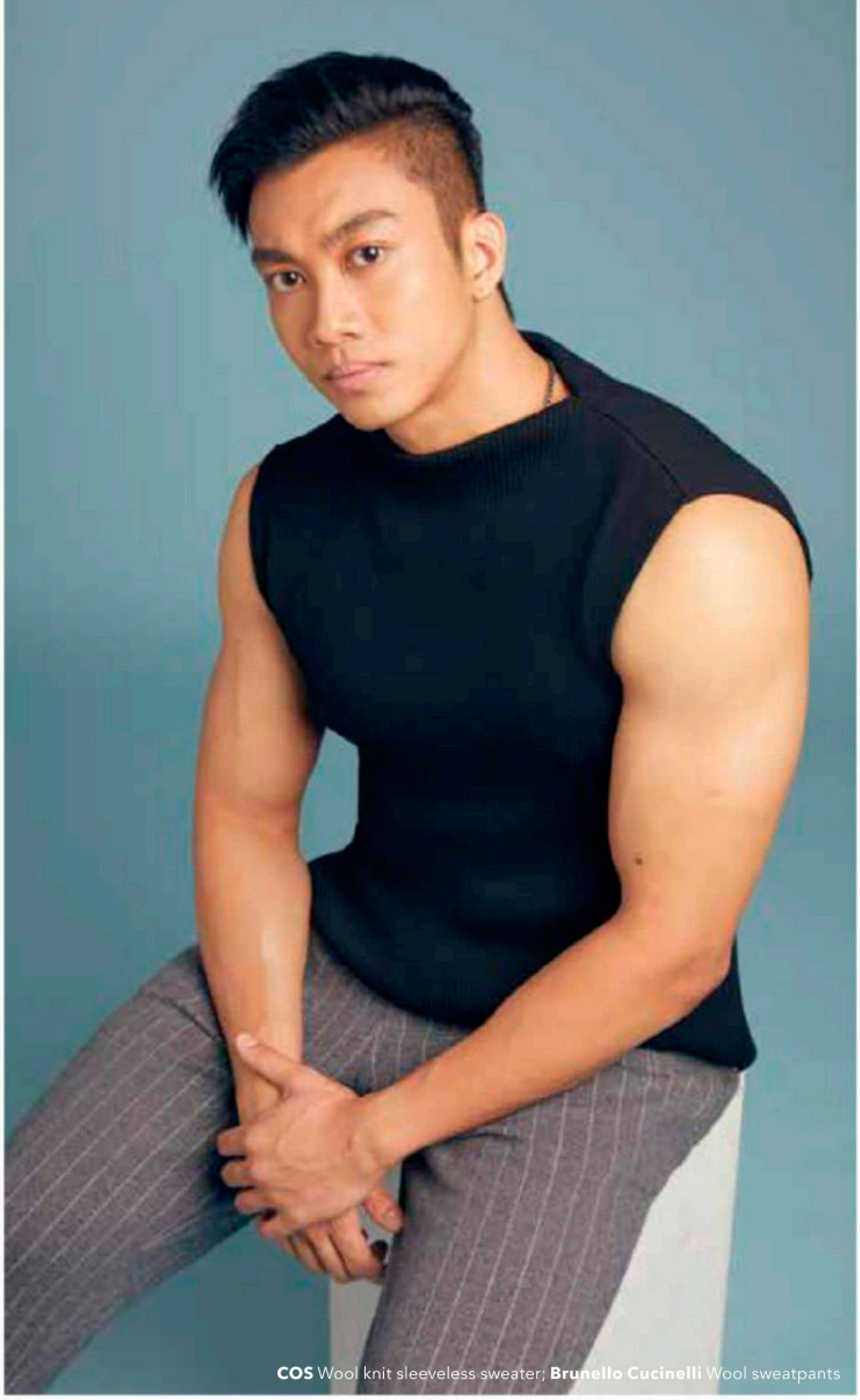
National Badminton Player, @lohkeanyew

What have you been up to? I've been training six days a week with double sessions on four of those days. A few competitions have been cancelled. I was actually training for one that's slated for September in Taipei. **Has every win tasted sweeter than the last?** Definitely my 2019 win against Lin Dan in the Thailand Masters — the most memorable for me. **What was the most important lesson you've learnt from one of your wins?** Whenever I lose, I usually chalk it up to my impatience so I've learnt to have patience and to never give up. Once you give up, you'll lose without even trying. Every win for me has been a game in patience. **What would you like to tell your seven-year old self who was bullied for playing the sport?** They can't bully me for long! [Laughs] The most responsible answer would be for him to fight back and challenge them. **Is there a cause you'd like to champion?** I hope that I can bring the joy of playing badminton to Singaporeans and people around the world. It really is a healthy sport because a lot of cardio, muscle building and eye-to-hand coordination is involved. **What do you hope for in the future?** An Olympic gold — something I've aspired to achieve since I was young. Hopefully, I can also consider retirement to spend more time with my family once I end my career but it probably means that I need to win a lot of competitions like Lee Chong Wei from Malaysia! [laughs] I'm most likely ending my career once I've gone to two to three Olympic games. Singapore Olympic badminton players usually just go to two games so I'd like to be the person who creates history. **Any advice for young aspiring badminton players?** Dare to dream and work for it. Have the courage to dream big because you'll hit a limit if it's too small. **Despite your fast-paced schedule, why is it important to have a skincare routine?** For sponsors, they look at skills. For anybody who wants to engage me in a commercial project, it's all about the face. **Which is your favourite LAB SERIES product from the Rescue Water range?** What if I told you they are all equally important because they are all linked? It doesn't work if you just wash your face and use a toner. Or if you moisturise without toning. Or even if you cleanse without toning or moisturising. **What if you had to pick a product?** The cleanser — imagine going out for one whole day and feeling uncomfortable that your face is dirty. As sportsmen, we usually sweat and get oily and once we clean ourselves, we need to keep hydrated. So it's important to have a product that helps to cleanse while rehydrating my skin.

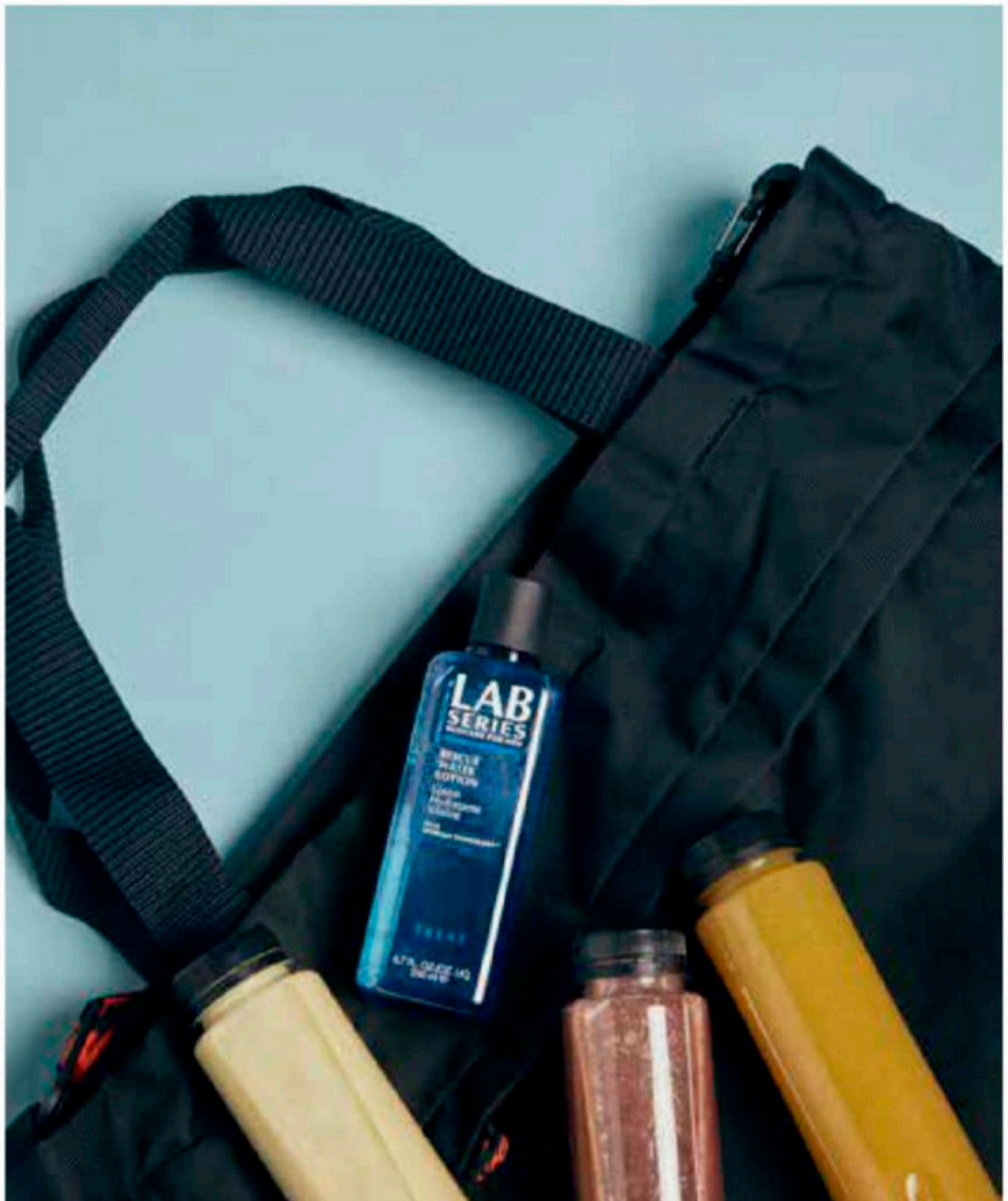
The LAB SERIES Rescue Water Gel Cleanser gently removes all traces of dirt, oil and pollutants while oat amino acids and a blend of humectants soften and conditions.

Sandro Wool knit turtleneck; Pants, stylist's own

LAB
SERIES
SKINCARE FOR MEN
RESCUE WATER
GEL CLEANSER
CLEAN



COS Wool knit sleeveless sweater; **Brunello Cucinelli** Wool sweatpants



HASS ROSS

Part-Time Spin Instructor, @hassross

What have you been up to? I've recently graduated from university so I'm working full-time now. Apart from that, I teach spin class twice a week at OM Fitness. **How do you apply what you've learnt from conducting fire fighting and physical training sessions to what you do as a spin instructor now?** Back in National Service, I was a fire rescue officer where I also trained and groomed fire fighters to be operationally ready when they get deployed to their respective fire stations. What I learnt was to be vocal while having a leadership mentality on how to lead a crowd — two traits I use to conduct my spin classes by helping me to gain a voice. **What was the most important lesson you've learnt as a fitness instructor?** The most valuable lesson that I've learnt would be how to motivate others in changing themselves for the better. In a sense, I help others to become better versions of themselves and this in turn, has the same effect on me. **What would you like to tell your younger self?** I would tell him to enjoy the moment and to not be overwhelmed with whatever that is happening. Enjoy the process, believe in himself and also, to believe that if he keeps doing what he loves and does best, he'll eventually get there. **Is there a cause you'd like to champion?** I was actually participating in a community programme where we mentored kids who came from less privileged families. We helped in terms of giving advice or helping them out with their schoolwork. **Any advice for young aspiring fitness trainers?** It's going to sound very cliché but trust yourself. The only person that can bring you to where you want to be in life is yourself. **The LAB SERIES routine revolves around three steps, do you have three steps before taking part in a competition?** The first step would be to simply wake up in the morning and to motivate myself to have breakfast because sometimes, I might not have the motivation to train on that day itself. The second step would be to head to the gym with a buddy to support me and the third step would be to finish off my workout with a post-workout. **Why is it important to have a skincare routine as a spin instructor?** Having a good skincare routine not only gives you better skin but it also gives you a boost of confidence — when you look good, you really do feel good. **Since your job revolves around speed, how fast do you like your skincare application?** I like it to be as fast as possible — something that I can apply instantly after I shower. A maximum of five to ten minutes if possible! **Which is your favourite LAB SERIES product and why?** I actually like the Rescue Water Lotion a lot because it leaves my skin feeling clean and smooth — it looks more lively even if you're tired.

As a lotion and toner, the LAB SERIES Rescue Water Lotion absorbs instantly to hydrate skin and removes any remaining impurities when applied with a cotton pad.

PANG SHEN JUN

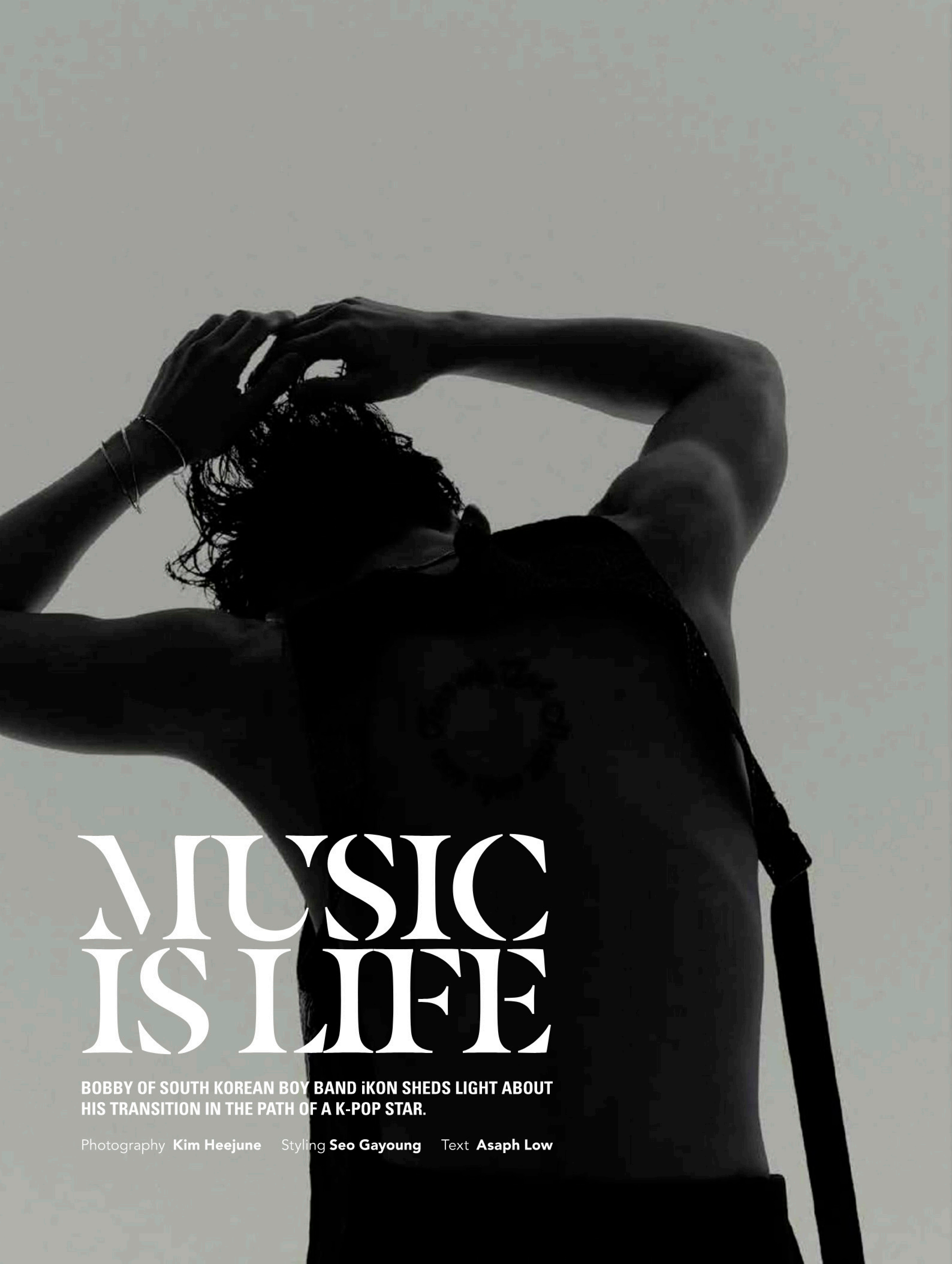
National Swimmer, @swimpsj

What have you been up to? I've been working as a financial planner at Great Eastern and swimming at the same time. **What was the most important lesson you've learnt from one of your wins?** This one's a tough one. It would be that hard work always pays off but good swims don't always happen so if I were to talk about my non-wins, it'll be a lesson on what I can improve on. **Has every win tasted sweeter than the last?** Yes! For each win, I feel more relieved than feeling that it's sweet. One season of preparations takes about half a year so the minute I've won a race, I just feel relieved that this six months of hard work has paid off. **What would you like to tell your four-year old self who just started swimming?** Keep swimming because you will get the opportunity to visit many places in the world that you'd never thought you'd visit. And of course, to keep up his passion for swimming. Also, that if he faces any obstacles in the future, that it's just part and parcel of being a sportsman so I don't want him to be too hard and critical on himself. **Is there a cause you'd like to champion?** To give every Singaporean equal opportunities just like how I got mine to pursue my passion. It might not be sports-related — it can be arts or anything. I'd like to champion a cause where people are emboldened to go against the norm and of course, to do what they truly love. **What do you hope for in the future?** It would be to qualify for the Tokyo Olympics next year. In the long term and when I eventually move on from swimming, I'd like to start my own family and I'd like to be financially sustainable to be able to take care of them and my own future family. **Any advice for young aspiring swimmers?** Never give up on your dreams even though you'll have bad swims, where you'll have times where you stagnate in your improvement but just know that you can always find something more in you to get better. **Why is it important to have a skincare routine as a swimmer?** I'm exposed to waters with high chlorine content and thus, I have very dry skin. After trying the LAB SERIES Rescue Water series, my skin actually feels good post-application. I like the LAB SERIES Rescue Water Emulsion because it's not harsh on my skin and it doesn't hurt when I apply it on my skin. It has a very hydrating feel and leaves my skin without an oily residue.

One use of the LAB SERIES rescue Water Emulsion locks hydration in for 72 hours with hydrolysed rice extract and a blend of powerful moisturising ingredients.

Brunello Cucinelli Wool sweater, corduroy pants

IATA
D&R 80th Edition
LAB SERIES



MUSIC IS LIFE

BOBBY OF SOUTH KOREAN BOY BAND iKON SHEDS LIGHT ABOUT HIS TRANSITION IN THE PATH OF A K-POP STAR.

Photography **Kim Heejune** Styling **Seo Gayoung** Text **Asaph Low**

Louis Vuitton Wool-blend vest, wool-blend pants

Dolce&Gabbana Wool-blend vest, Wool pants; **Dior** Cotton scarf; **Givenchy** Metal ring

IF AN ARTISTE MEASURES HIS PASSAGE OF TIME IN MUSIC ALBUMS, IT IS HARD TO BELIEVE BOBBY IS A MERE 24 YEARS YOUNG. HE WENT TO KOREA IN 2011 AND THE YOUNG KOREAN MADE HIS DEBUT TOGETHER WITH iKON IN 2015. SINCE THEN, THE SOUTH KOREAN BOY BAND HAS RELEASED A WARM-UP SINGLE, A DEBUT HALF ALBUM, A DOUBLE DIGITAL SINGLE, TWO ORIGINAL ALBUMS, THREE EPS, A SINGLE ALBUM, TWO SINGLES AND A REPACKAGE ALBUM WHILE BOBBY HAS RELEASED A SOLO ORIGINAL ALBUM.

"i DECIDE", iKON'S NEWEST ALBUM RELEASE THIS YEAR IS THE NEXT TO BE ADDED TO BOBBY'S DISCOGRAPHY. THE FIVE-TRACK ALBUM FEATURES A RANGE OF STYLES THAT WAS CHALLENGING TO PUT TOGETHER AS BOBBY SHARES THE DIFFICULTIES THE GROUP EXPERIENCED. "IT'S BEEN A LONG TIME SINCE WE RELEASED OUR LAST ALBUM, SO WORKING ON THIS ONE WASN'T EASY," SAYS BOBBY, "WE REALLY HAD TO KEEP IN TUNE AS A GROUP WHILE WE WORKED ON OUR MUSIC. BUT ALL IN ALL, I THINK IT CAME OUT GREAT AND I'M VERY PROUD OF OUR WORK."

"I REALLY ENJOYED GETTING TOGETHER WITH THE BOYS AND SPENDING TIME THROUGHOUT THE DAY. IT'S BEEN OVER A YEAR SINCE OUR LAST ALBUM. I ALSO MISS PERFORMING ON STAGE, IT'S SO MUCH FUN."

AS WITH ALL K-POP GROUPS, NO RELEASE IS COMPLETE WITHOUT MUSIC VIDEOS. GETTING THE SLEEK CHOREOGRAPHY AND SHARP TRANSITIONS WERE A BIGGER ASK FOR BOBBY AND HIS FELLOW MATES AS HE CONFESSES IT WAS HARDER TO NAIL COMPARED TO RECORDING THE SONGS. "IT'S REALLY HARD FOR ALL SIX OF US TO SYNCHRONIZE AND DANCE AS ONE," HE SHARES.

“WE ARE EXTREMELY THANKFUL TO OUR FANS WHO HAVE BEEN WAITING FOR THIS NEW ALBUM,” SHARES BOBBY, “WE WOULD LIKE THEM TO KNOW THAT, JUST LIKE OUR SONG TITLE, WE WOULD DIVE INTO DOING ANYTHING FOR THEM.”

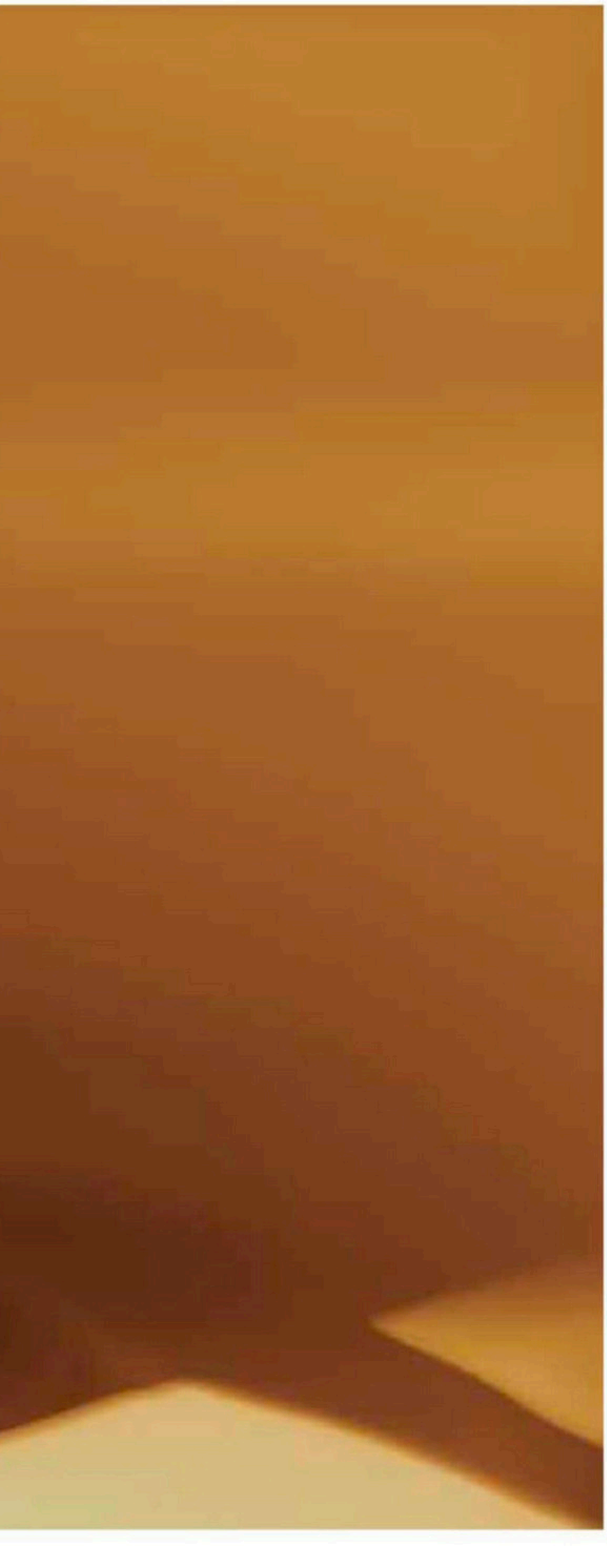
“THE SCENT THAT FALLS OVER EVERY PLACE THE WINTER WINDS BLOW THROUGH / THE MOONLIGHT IS USED AS A SPOTLIGHT AS IT SHINES OVER ONLY THE FADED MEMORIES” READS THE FIRST TWO LINES WHICH HAPPENS TO BE BOBBY’S FAVOURITE TRACK IN THE ALBUM.

“I WAS WITH HIM [DONGHYUK] THROUGHOUT THE PROCESS, AND SEEING HIM PRODUCE THE TRACK MADE ME VERY PROUD. I LOVE THAT SONG AND IT IS MY FAVOURITE TRACK OF THE ALBUM!”

BORN AS KIM JI-WON IN SEOUL’S SEODAEMUN DISTRICT, BOBBY’S CHILDHOOD WAS UNLIKE OTHER SOUTH KOREAN KIDS – HE RELOCATED TO THE AMERICAN STATE OF VIRGINIA WHEN HE WAS IN FOURTH GRADE.

Dior Wool sweater (outer); **Fendi** Wool sweater (inner), wool sweater (on floor); **Saint Laurent** Wool sweater (on waist); **Givenchy** Wool pants; **Prada** Leather shoes

Saint Laurent Cotton shirt;
Givenchy Metal ring;
Other Jewellery, Bobby's own



BOBBY HAD TO ADAPT TO THE CHANGE IN ENVIRONMENT AND CULTURE. ONE OF THE BIGGEST LESSONS BOBBY TOOK AWAY FROM HIS AMERICAN CHILDHOOD WAS DIVERSITY AND EQUALITY AS HE POINTED OUT AMERICA'S MELTING POT OF CULTURES AND PEOPLE.

"GROWING UP IN THE UNITED STATES WITH PEOPLE FROM ALL OVER THE WORLD MADE ME REALISE THAT PEOPLE ARE THE SAME REGARDLESS OF THEIR DIFFERENCES IN RACE. I BELIEVE THERE SHOULD BE NO DISCRIMINATION."

"FAME IS ALSO CRUCIAL, BUT THERE IS NOTHING MORE IMPORTANT THAN SEEING MY FAMILY COMFORTABLE. IT MADE ME STRIVE TO WORK HARDER FOR THEM."

"THEY [FAMILY] ARE THE PURPOSE OF [MY] LIFE AND IS ONE OF THE MAIN REASONS WHY I BECAME A SINGER. MY PARENTS DON'T LIKE TO SEE ME HAVING A HARD TIME, SO THEY ARE ALWAYS TELLING ME TO TAKE SOME TIME OFF AND REST." HIS FIRST STINT CAME WHEN HE AUDITIONED FOR YG ENTERTAINMENT IN NEW YORK IN 2011. USING HIS VOICE, HE MANAGED TO PASS THE AUDITION. EVERYTHING THAT FOLLOWED WAS A WHIRLWIND.

"I DON'T QUITE REMEMBER MY LIFE BEFORE BECOMING A K-POP STAR SINCE I STARTED AT SUCH A YOUNG AGE," SAYS BOBBY WHEN ASKED HOW LIFE HAS CHANGED SINCE BECOMING ONE. "BUT ONE THING FOR SURE IS THAT I AM RECEIVING A TREMENDOUS AMOUNT OF LOVE WHICH I AM SO GRATEFUL FOR. IT'S BEEN A JOURNEY FULL OF LOVE."

THE RIGOURS OF BEING A K-POP STAR ARE WELL-DOCUMENTED AS ARTISTES ARE PUT THROUGH INTENSE VOCAL AND DANCE TRAINING. "MY DAYS WERE SPENT PRACTISING WITH NO WEEKENDS OFF BUT THE MOST DIFFICULT PART WAS BEING SEPARATED FROM FAMILY," SHARES BOBBY AS HE HAD TO RETURN TO SOUTH KOREA ALONE AFTER HIS SUCCESSFUL AUDITION.

"I TRY MY BEST NOT TO THINK TOO MUCH ABOUT THE PRESSURE AND STRESS OF THE WORK. I USUALLY HAVE THE TV ON, EVEN IF I'M NOT WATCHING IT. I ALSO PLAY GAMES AND TO KEEP MY MIND OFF OF THINGS."

"LOOKING BACK, EVERYTHING WAS WORTH IT NO MATTER HOW LONG, HARD AND DIFFICULT THE PROCESS [OF BECOMING A K-POP STAR] WAS. IT WAS A DREAM TO BUILD A CAREER TO SUPPORT MY FAMILY AND I FULFILLED IT!"

Hair **Seo Jinkyung | Blow Inc.**
Grooming **Kim Busung**
Photography Assistant **Kim Hanna, Kim Sujin, Yang Myungjun**
Styling Assistant **Yu Neunghan, Kim Seoyoung, Jeong Boa**
Production **Will Kim | MAXPERIENCE (MPE)**

DESPITE HIS BUSY SCHEDULES, BOBBY MAKES TIME FOR ANIMATIONS AS HE PROFESSES HIS LOVE FOR THE CREATIVE, YOUTHFUL AND COLOURFUL GENRE. APART FROM THE FUN AND HAPPINESS HE GETS OUT OF WATCHING THEM, IT HELPS BOBBY CONCEPTUALISE NEW IDEAS AND VISUALS FOR iKON'S ALBUMS.

GETTING INSPIRATION FOR HIS MUSICAL PROJECTS IS SLIGHTLY DIFFERENT FOR THE RAPPER. EUREKA MOMENTS HAPPEN SPONTANEOUSLY FROM VARIOUS SOURCES – IT COULD BE FROM FRIENDS OR A FILM.

"WHEN INSPIRATION STRIKES, IT COMES INSTANTLY. AS FOR THE MUSICAL PROCESS, I TRY TO WRITE ABOUT IT WHENEVER A MELODY COMES UP IN MY HEAD."

"I TRY NOT TO BE LIMITED BY RAP ALTHOUGH I'M A RAPPER," SAYS BOBBY ABOUT HIS MUSIC STYLE. "I ENJOY LISTENING TO VARIOUS GENRES. THE DIFFERENT TYPES OF MUSIC BROADEN MY SPECTRUM."

ONE ARTISTE THAT BOBBY INDULGES IN THESE DAYS IS OLIVER TREE – THE MULTI-HYPHENATED AMERICAN HAILING FROM SANTA CRUZ, CALIFORNIA WHO SHOT TO FAME WITH HIS SONG "WHEN I'M DOWN".

"ULTIMATELY, I WANT MY MUSIC TO BRING COMFORT TO LISTENERS AND GIVE THEM ENERGY. I HOPE IT DOES MORE THAN JUST BRING ENJOYMENT, BUT TO GIVE COURAGE TO MY FANS,"

Bottega Veneta Wool jacket, cotton turtleneck sweater, wool pants, leather boots

VICTORY!

A GUIDE TO WINNING ANY ELECTION WITH SARTORIAL LOOKS FROM FALL/WINTER '20 FOR PICTURE PERFECT APPROVAL RATINGS.

PHOTOGRAPHY **JAYA KHIDIR**
ART DIRECTION **IZWAN ABDULLAH**
STYLING **MANFRED LU**

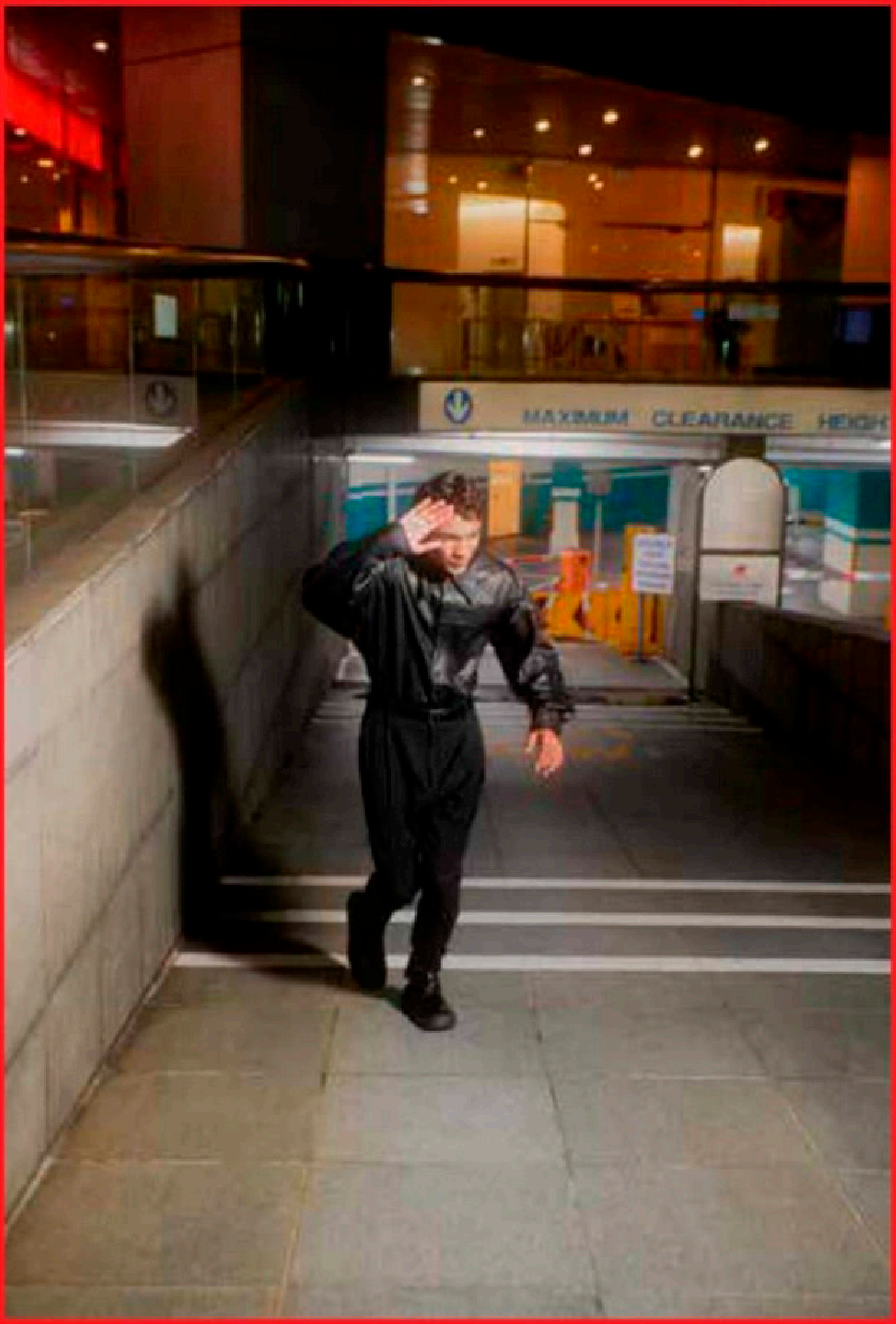
Fendi Wool jacket, cotton sweater, wool pants, leather lace-up boots

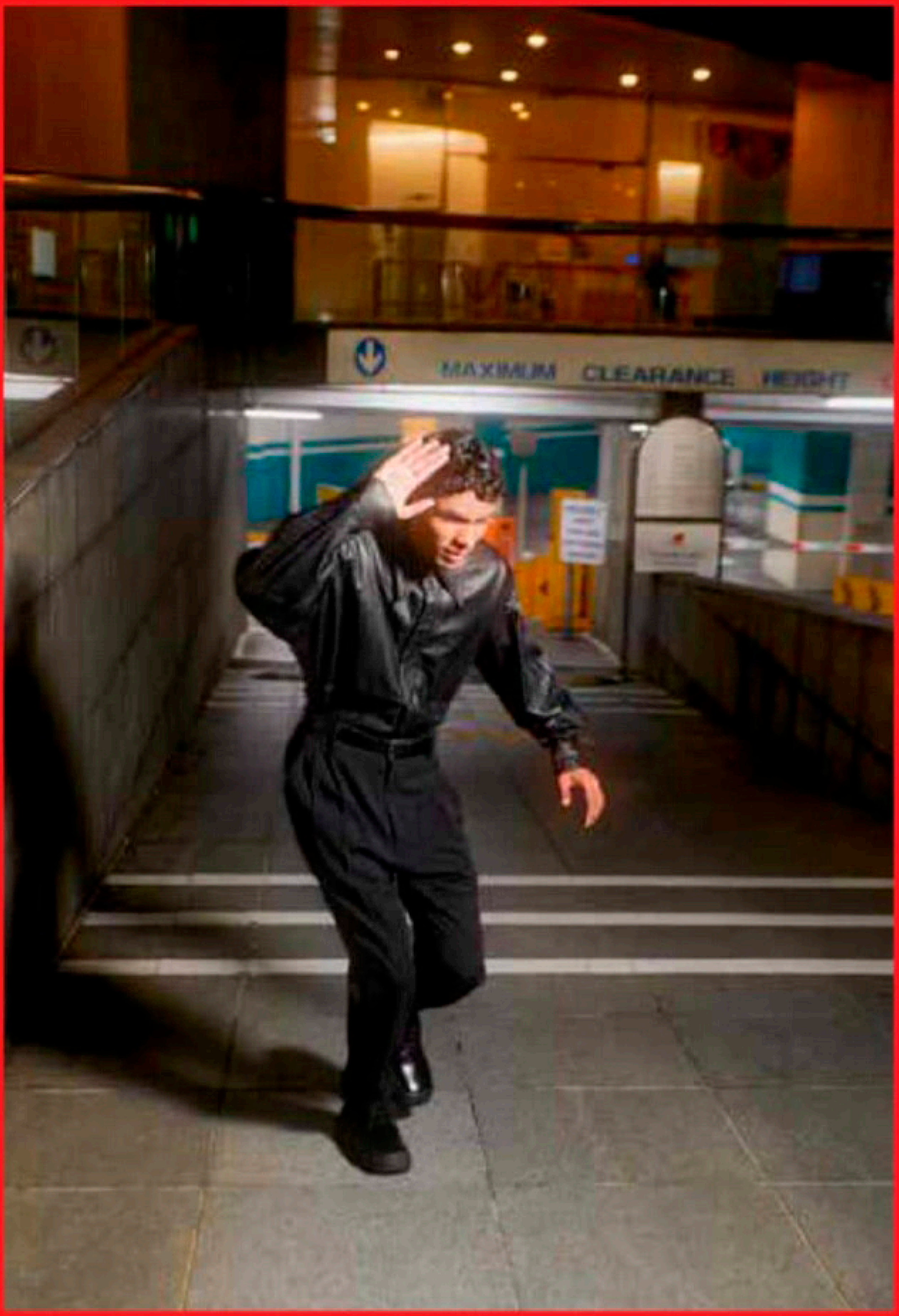
Hermès (Outer) Leather coat (Inner) Silk-blend shirt, cotton pants, silk tie, leather chelsea boots

Gucci Wool jacket, wool sweater, cotton shirt

Givenchy Wool jacket,
wool-blend waistcoat,
wool pants, leather boots

Louis Vuitton Wool jacket, cotton shirt, wool pants, leather lace-up shoes


MAXIMUM CLEARANCE HEIGH


MAXIMUM CLEARANCE HEIGHT

MAXIMUM CLEARANCE HEIGHT

Dolce&Gabbana Leather overshirt, cotton pants, leather belt; **Prada** Leather shoes

Saint Laurent Wool jacket, cotton shirt, wool pants

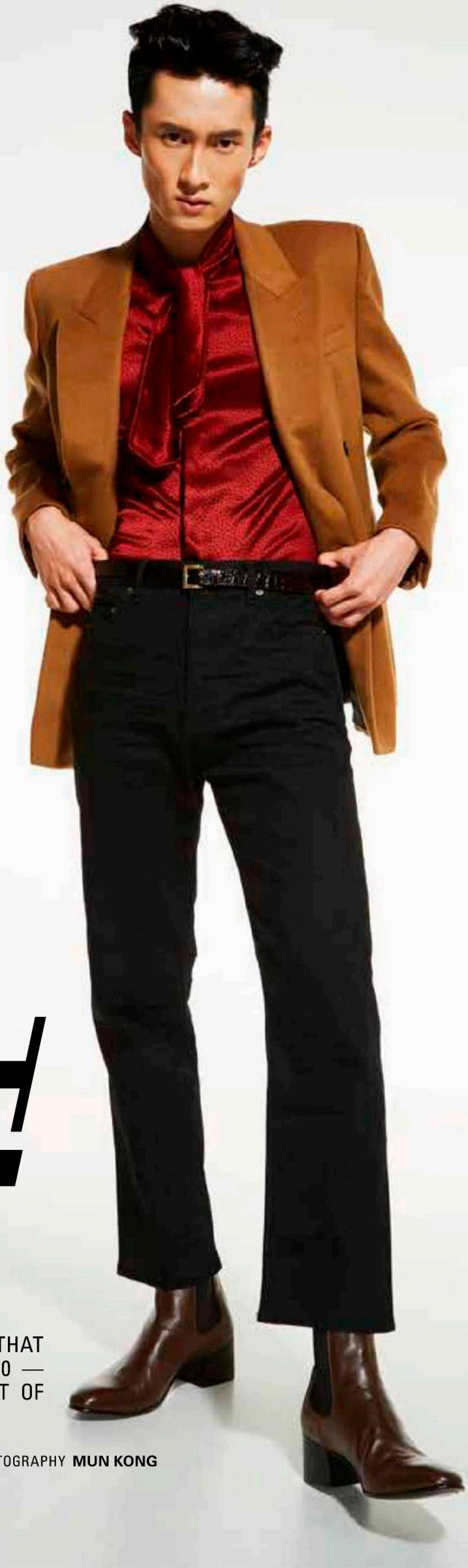
Prada Polyester vest, wool knit sleeveless sweater, cotton shirt, wool pants

VICT

Dior Men Wool jacket, cotton shirt, wool pants, silk-blend bandana, silk-blend scarf

ORY!
ORY!
ORY!

Photography Assistant **Adrian Han**
Styling Assistant **Elyse Lee**
Grooming and Hair **Priscelia Wong**
using **NARS and Kevin Murphy**
Model **Issac | Misc. Management**



Saint Laurent Wool jacket, silk shirt, jeans, leather belt, leather chelsea boots

TOUGH LOVE

THE CONTEMPORARY TEDDY BOY IS ONE THAT DRESSES IN SAINT LAURENT FALL/WINTER '20 — DANDY FROM HEAD TO TOE WITH THE SPIRIT OF TODAY'S ALTERNATIVE GENTLEMEN.

FASHION DIRECTION **WILSON LIM** STYLING **MANFRED LU** PHOTOGRAPHY **MUN KONG**

Saint Laurent Wool jacket, wool turtleneck sweater, jeans, Camp cotton and leather backpack

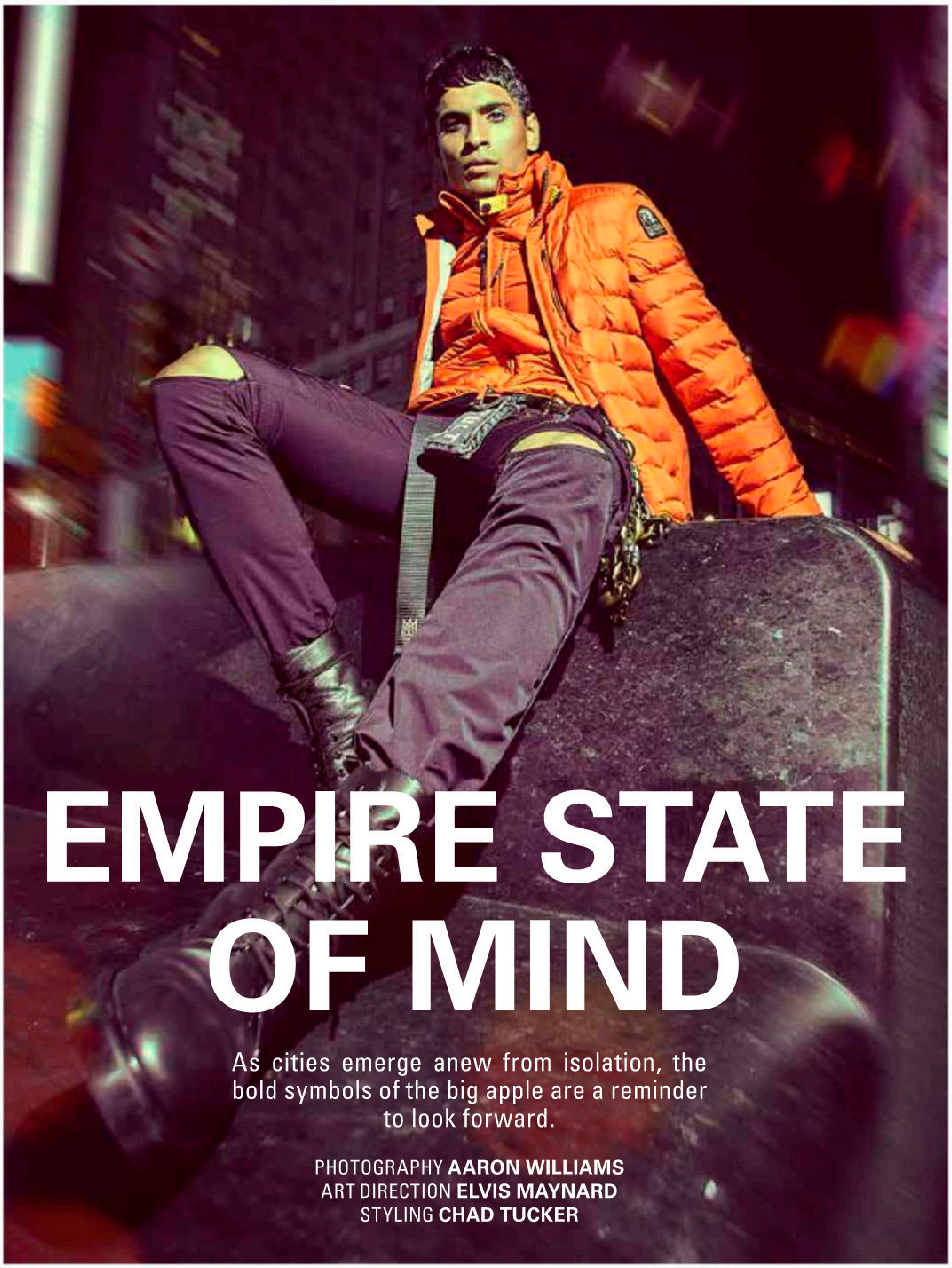
Saint Laurent Cotton anorak jacket, cotton shirt, jeans, wool scarf

Saint Laurent Wool jacket, cotton shirt, jeans, wool scarf, cotton socks, leather monk strap shoes

–

Grooming & Hair **Priscelia Wong** using **NARS** and **Kevin Murphy**

Model **Suyu**

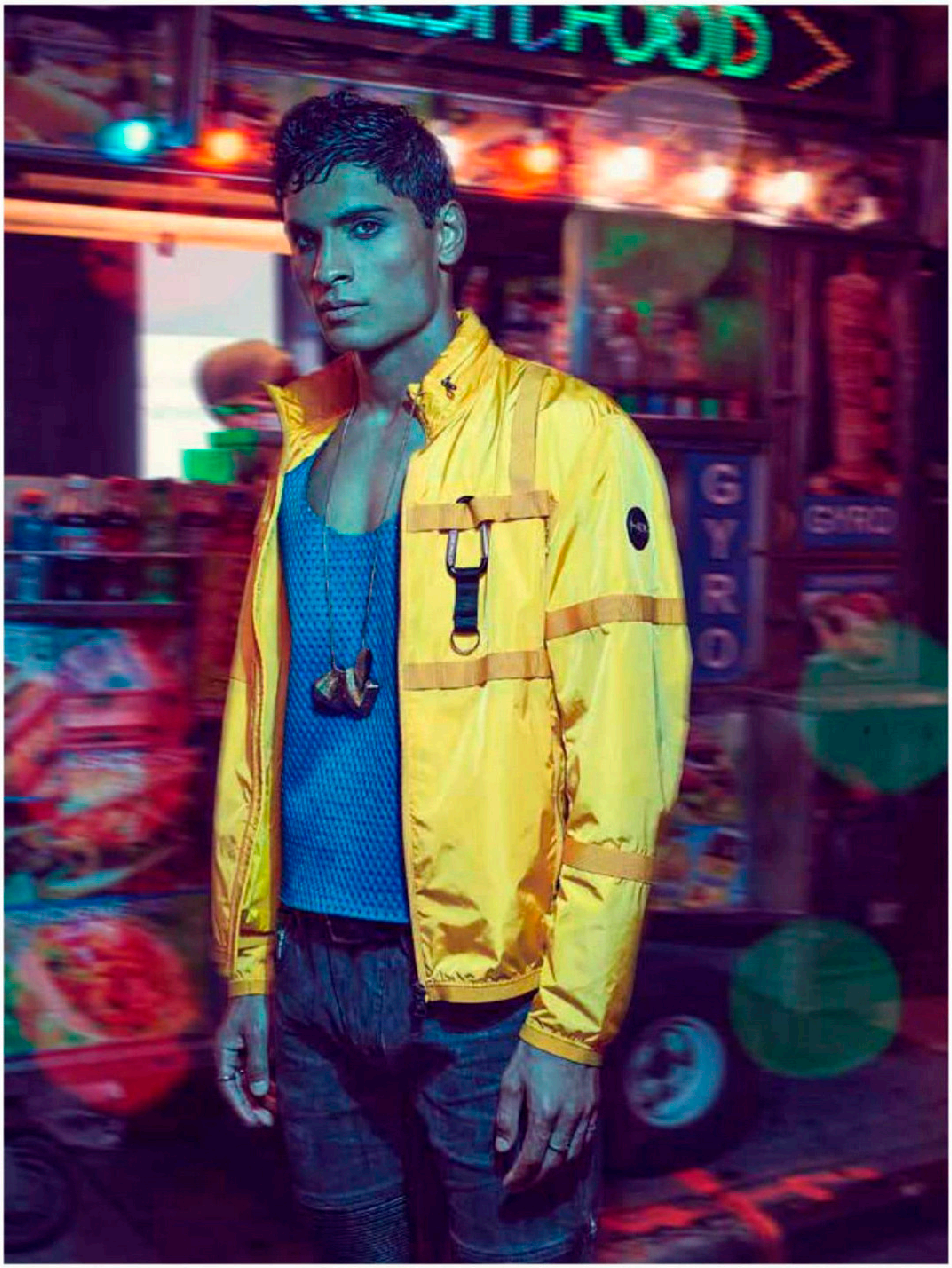


EMPIRE STATE OF MIND

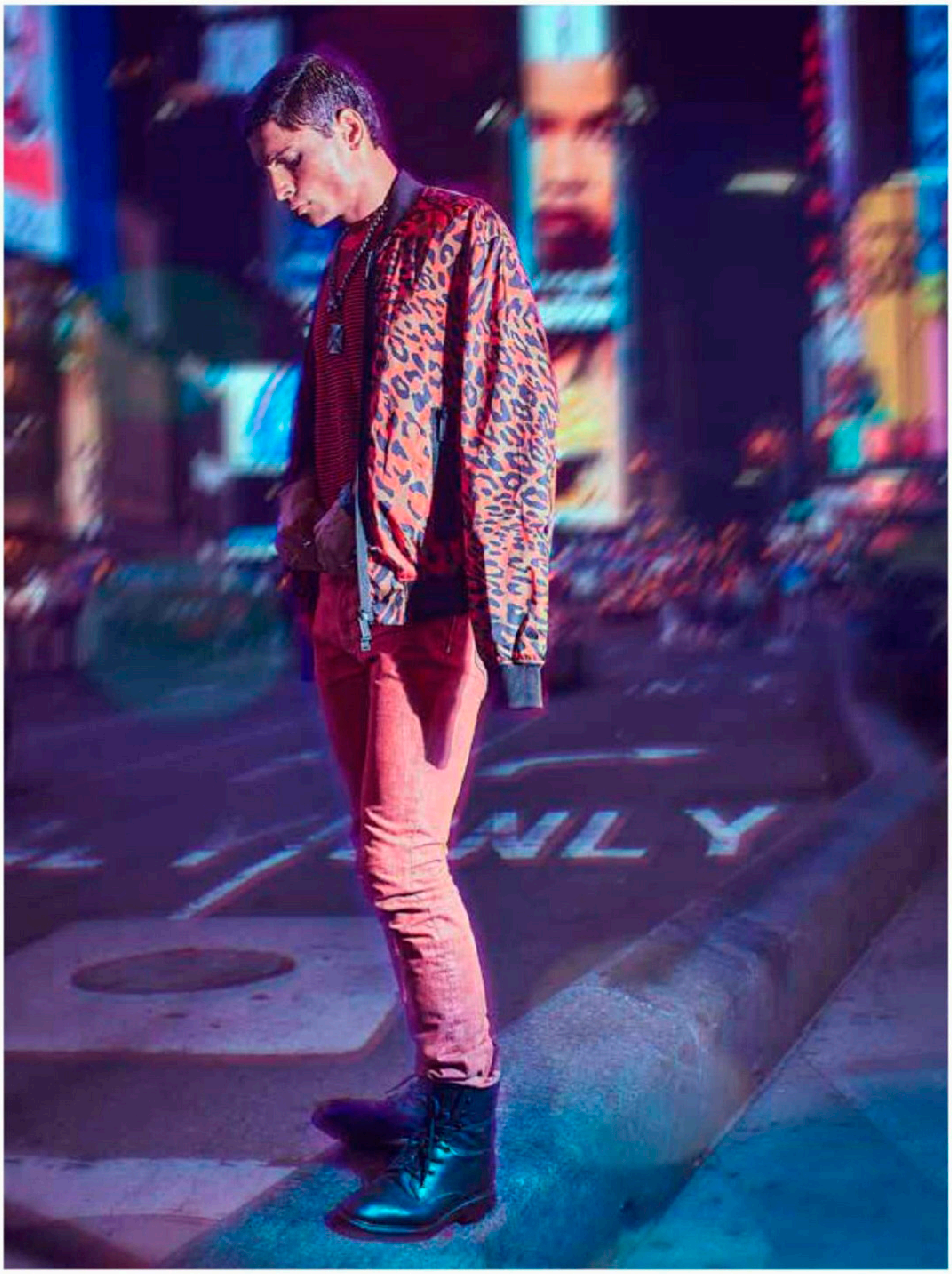
As cities emerge anew from isolation, the bold symbols of the big apple are a reminder to look forward.

PHOTOGRAPHY **AARON WILLIAMS**
ART DIRECTION **ELVIS MAYNARD**
STYLING **CHAD TUCKER**

Parajumpers Nylon jacket, nylon vest; **Cult of Individuality** Jeans;
PONO by Joan Goodman Metal chain; **Stuart Weitzman** Leather boots


FOOD
GYRO
GYRO

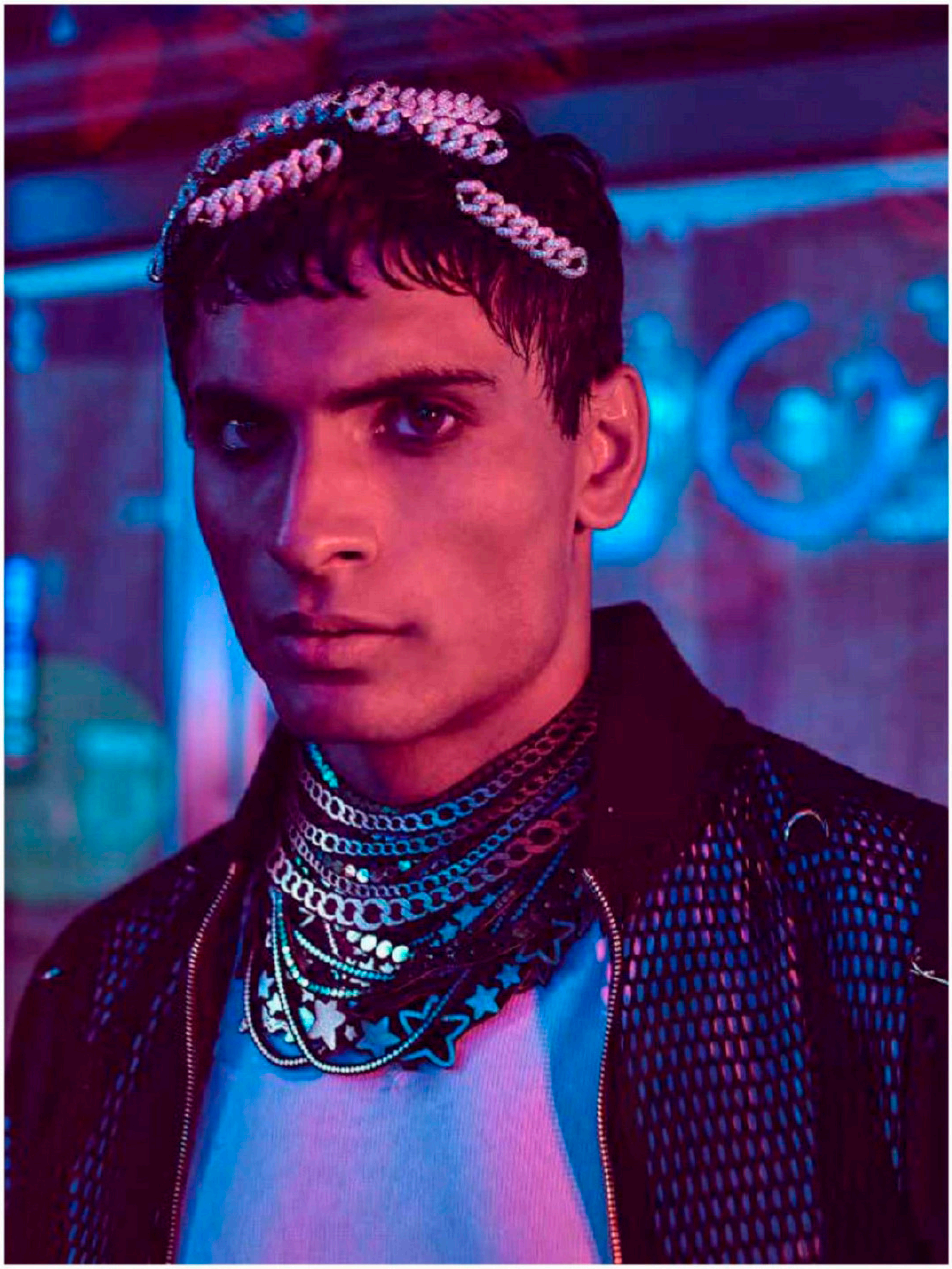
Colmar Polyester jacket; **Katya Leonovich** Cotton tank top; **Cult of Individuality** Jeans;
PONO by Joan Goodman Metal necklace



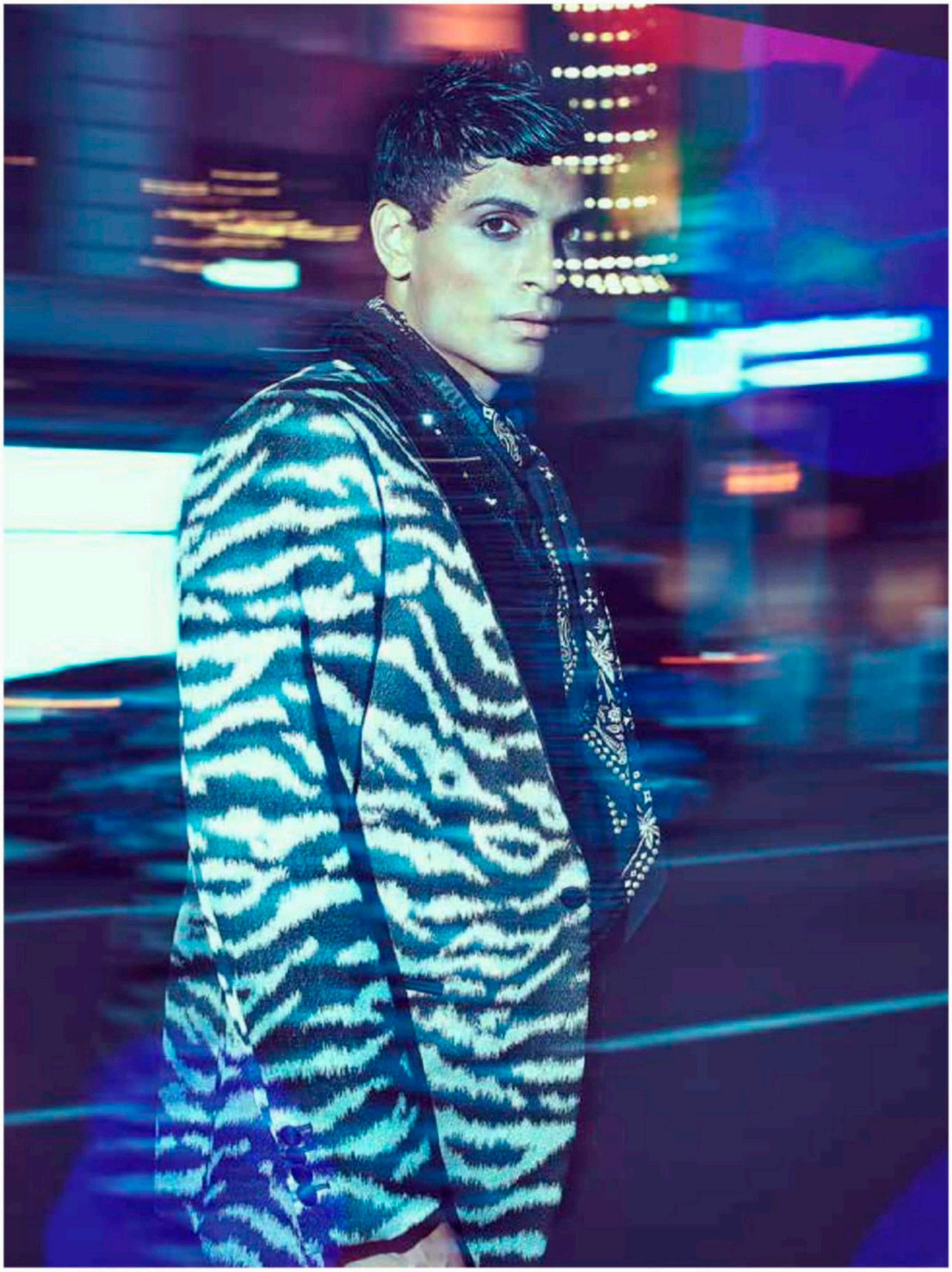
Dsquared² Polyester jacket; **Opening Ceremony** Cotton-blend T-shirt; **Maison Margiela** Jeans;
Diesel Leather bracelet; **Trash and Vaudeville** Leather belt and bracelet; **Stylist own** Metal necklace

Manfredonia Polyester jacket; **Parajumpers** Cotton sweater; **Cult of Individuality** Jeans;
Inclusive Jewelry Metal lapel pins, metal necklaces

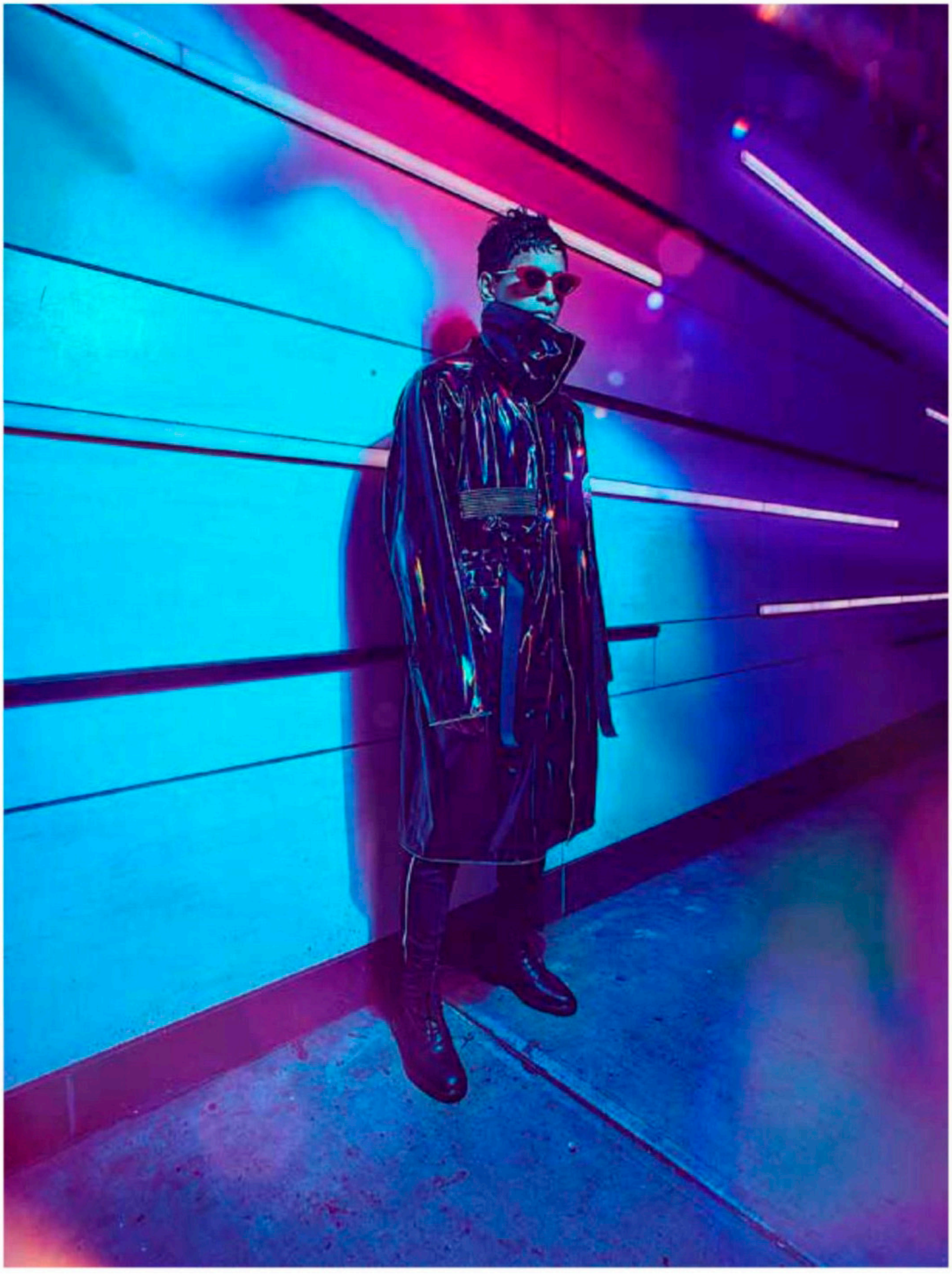
Save the Duck x Missoni Nylon jacket; **Colmar** Cotton pants;
Timex Metal watch



Manfredonia Polyester jacket; **Parajumpers** Cotton sweater;
Inclusive Jewelry Metal lapel pins, metal necklaces



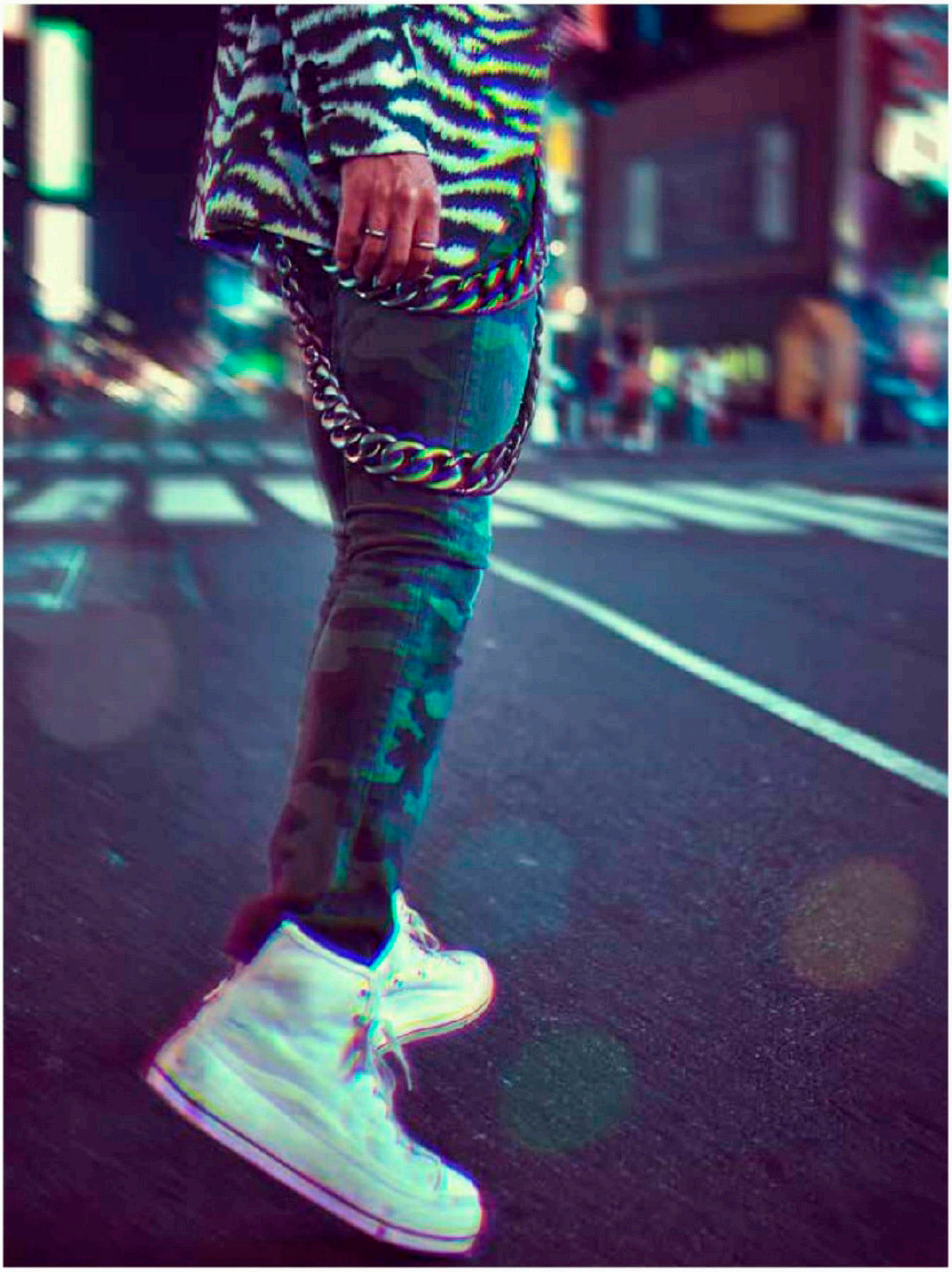
Terry Vonranson Wool jacket; cotton bandana; **R13** Jeans; **Uncuffed Leather** Cotton bandana



Katya Leonovich Vinyl coat; **Zach Dillon** Polyester pants; **Mykita** Acetate sunglasses; **Stuart Weitzman** Leather boots

CULT
ZACH DILLON

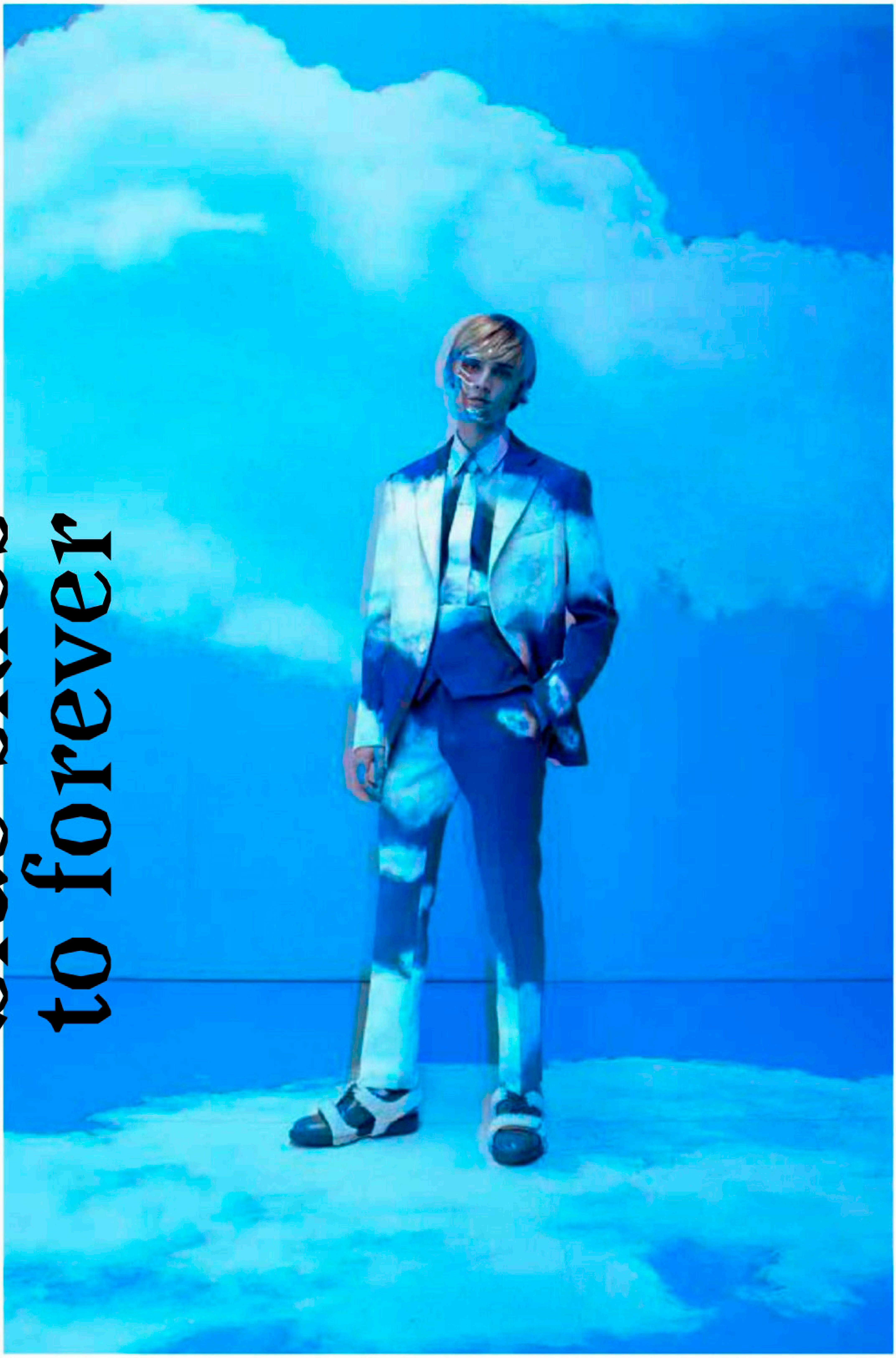
Cult of Individuality Polyester jacket; **Zach Dillon** Polyester pants;
Barton Perreira Acetate sunglasses; **Stuart Weitzman** Leather boots



Terry Vonranson Wool jacket; cotton bandana; **R13** Jeans, leather sneakers; **Uncuffed** Leather Cotton bandana

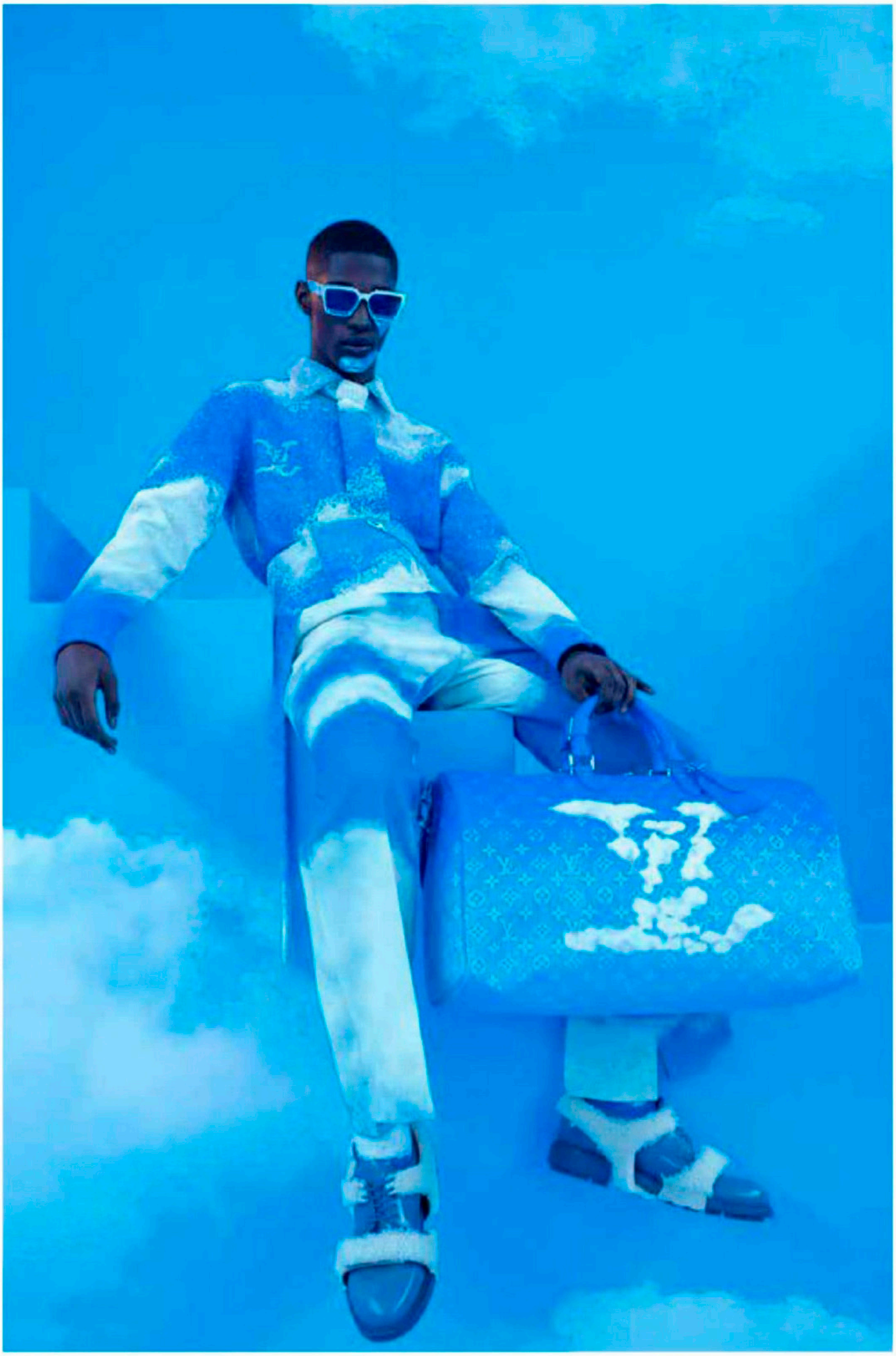
Photography Assistant **Max Brown**
Grooming & Hair **Payton Holbrook**
Model **Hitesh Bisht** | **Muse Management**

blue skies to forever



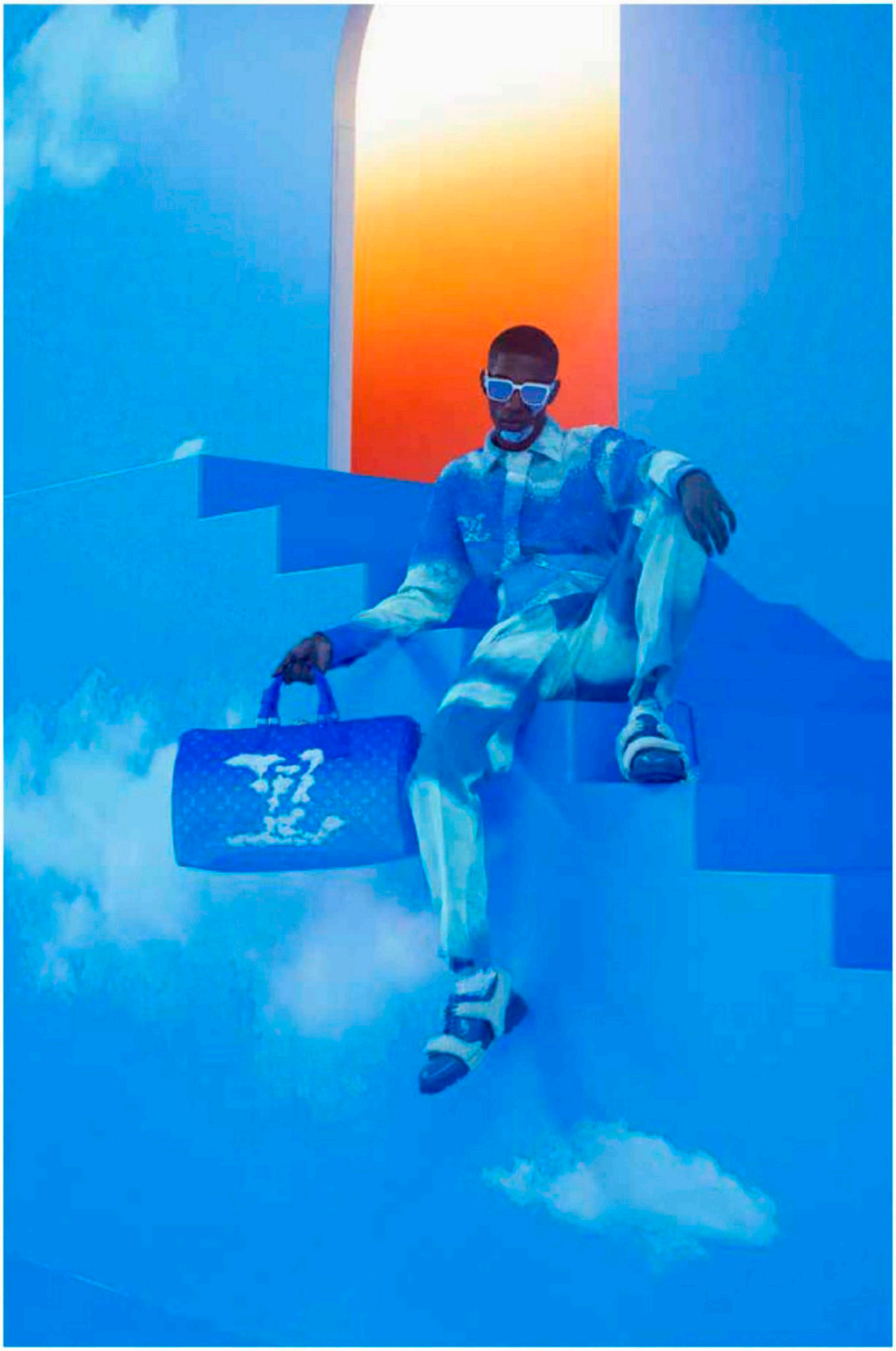
BLUE SKIES TO FOREVER, GREEN GRASS DANCING IN THE WIND WHILE SKY AND CLOUD MOTIFS SUSPEND THEMSELVES ON LOUIS VUITTON'S FALL/WINTER '20 COLLECTION.

PHOTOGRAPHY **SANDY KIM** STYLIST **BEN PERREIRA** MODELS **JOSHUA BERING, DIOGO & LEE MINEOK**

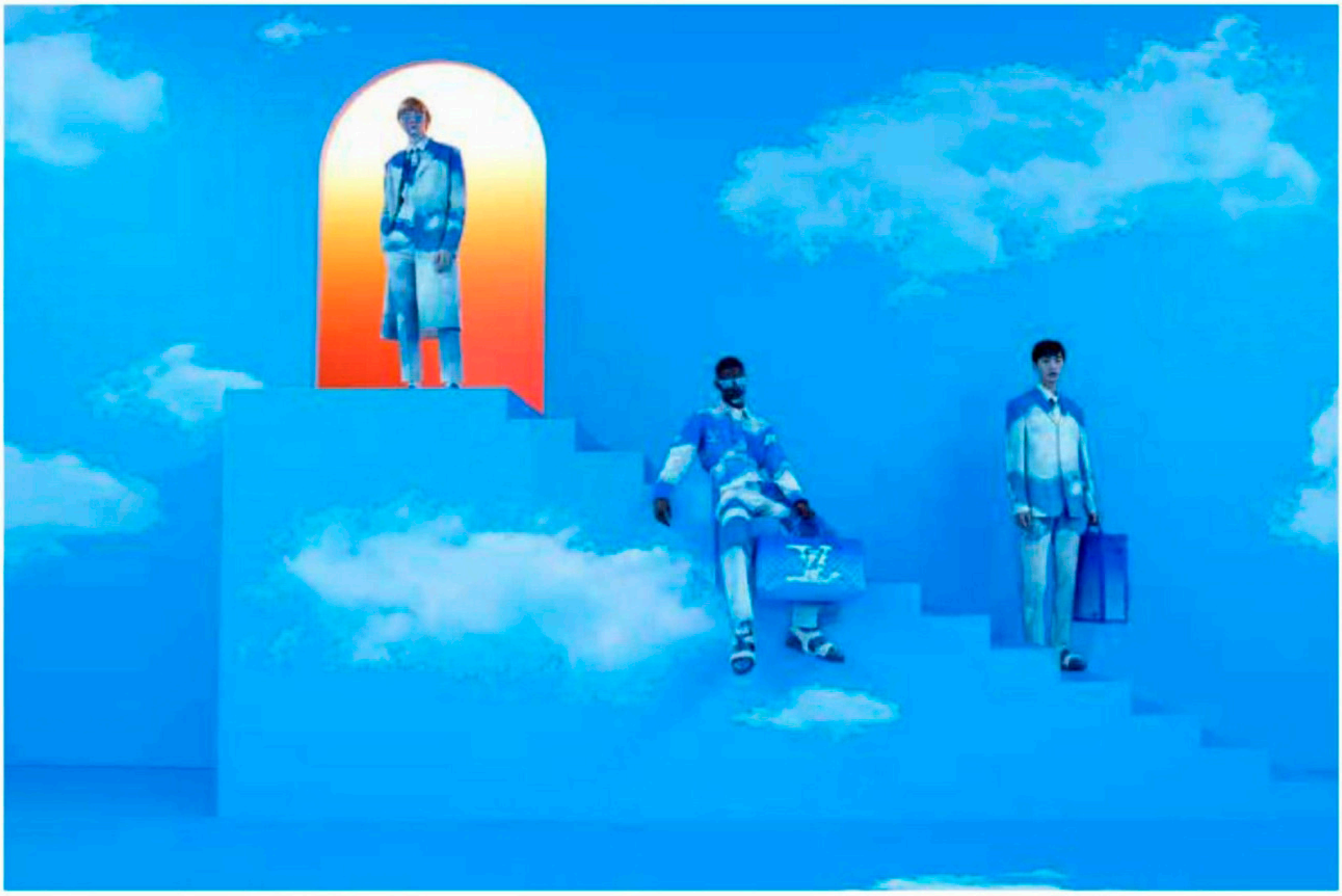


(Left) **Louis Vuitton** Wool gabardine printed jacket, wool gabardine cummerbund, cotton printed shirt, wool gabardine printed pants, cotton printed tie, LV Clay metal tie clip, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes

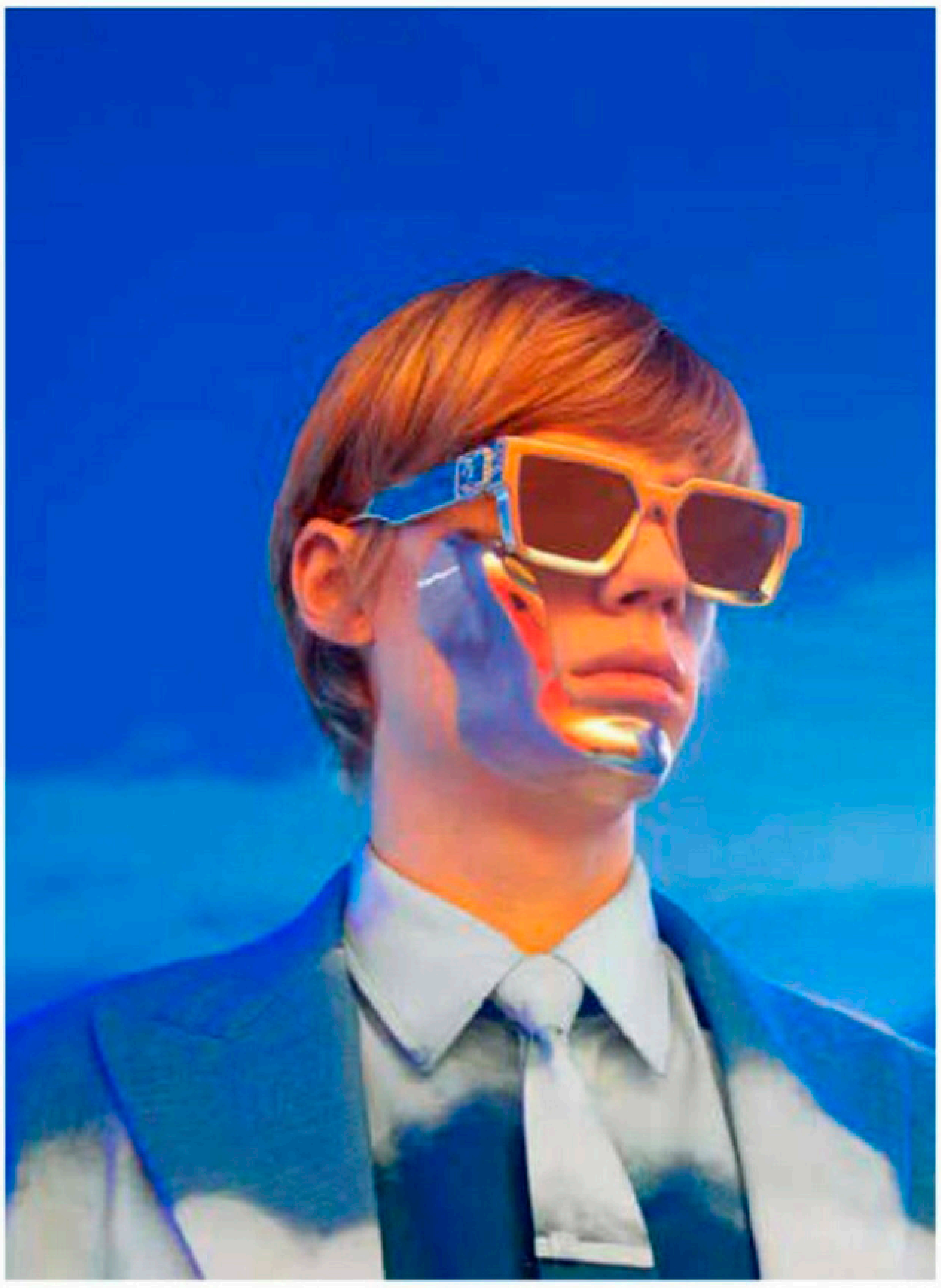
(Right) **Louis Vuitton** Sequins embroidered and cotton printed shirt, sequins embroidered and wool gabardine printed cummerbund, wool gabardine printed pants, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, sequins embroidered and cotton printed tie, Keepall canvas printed bag, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes



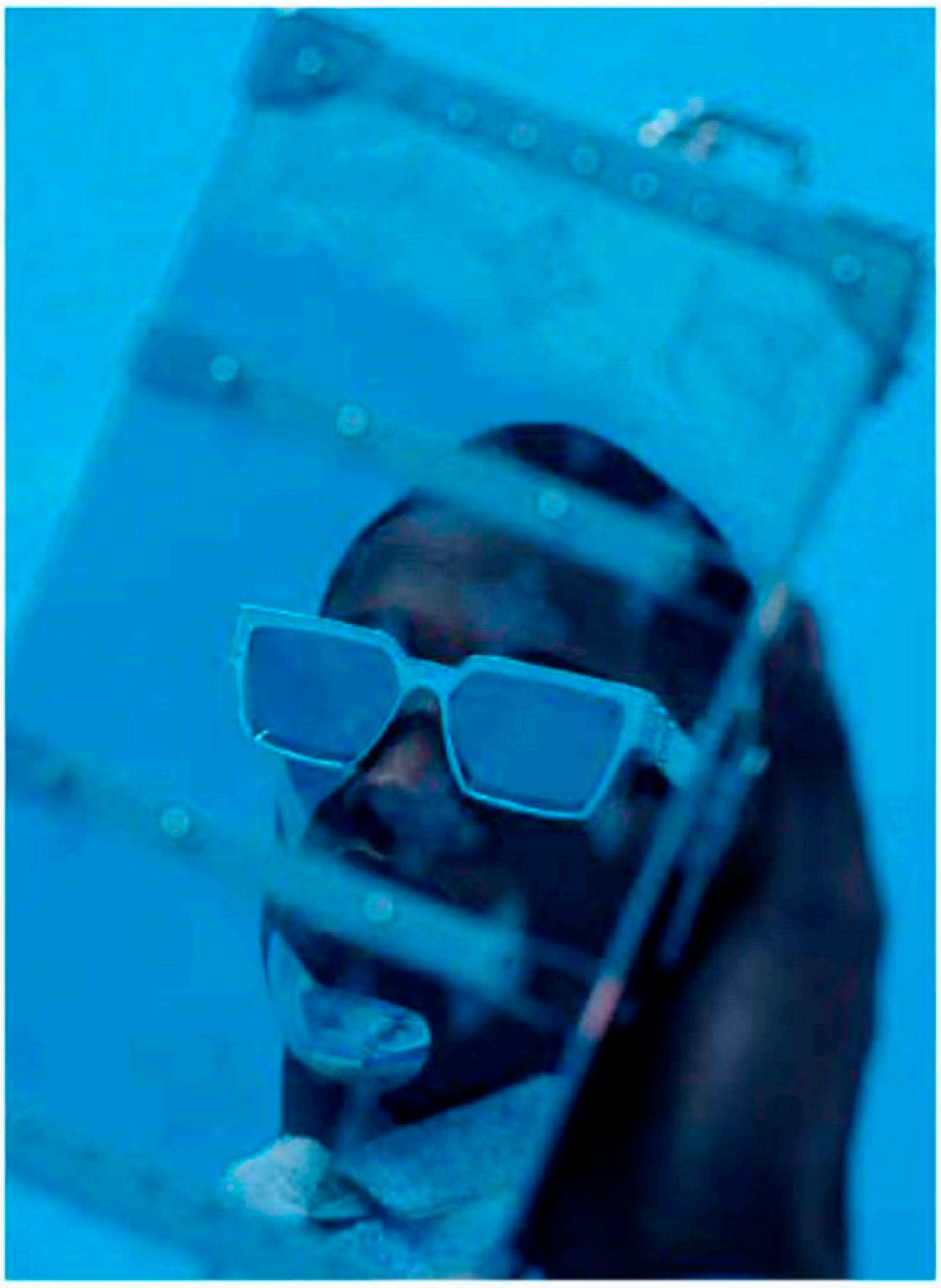
Louis Vuitton Sequins embroidered and cotton printed shirt, sequins embroidered and wool gabardine printed cummerbund, wool gabardine printed pants, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, sequins embroidered and cotton printed tie, Keepall canvas printed bag, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes



(From left to right) **Louis Vuitton** Wool gabardine printed embossed monogram coat, cotton printed shirt, wool gabardine printed embossed monogram pants, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, cotton printed tie, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes; **Louis Vuitton** Sequins embroidered and cotton printed shirt, sequins embroidered and wool gabardine printed cummerbund, wool gabardine printed pants, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, sequins embroidered and cotton printed tie, Keepall canvas printed bag, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes; **Louis Vuitton** Wool gabardine printed embossed monogram jacket, cotton printed shirt, wool gabardine printed embossed monogram pants, cotton printed tie, LV Clay metal tie clip with ceramic finishing, Daisy metal cufflinks with ceramic finishing, glazed calf leather and shearling derby shoes



Louis Vuitton Wool gabardine printed jacket, cotton printed shirt, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, cotton printed tie, LV Clay metal tie clip,



Louis Vuitton Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, Wallet Trunk mirror and wood clutch

(From left to right) **Louis Vuitton** Sequin embroidered and cotton printed shirt, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, sequin embroidered and cotton printed tie; **Louis Vuitton** Wool gabardine printed jacket, cotton printed shirt, Mirror Millionaire acetate sunglasses, cotton printed tie, LV Clay metal tie clip

SUBURBAN SPRAWL

THE MELANCHOLIC SPIRIT OF YOUTH IS FOUND ONCE AGAIN WITH THE SEASON'S NEW OFFERINGS.

PHOTOGRAPHY **BRENT CHUA**
STYLING **JUNGLE LIN**

(Left) Dunhill Wool jacket, silk tie;
Gucci Cotton shirt

(Right) Fendi Wool-blend jacket;
Louis Vuitton Cotton pants;
Moschino Leather lace-up boots

Sacai Polyester-blend jacket, polyester scarf

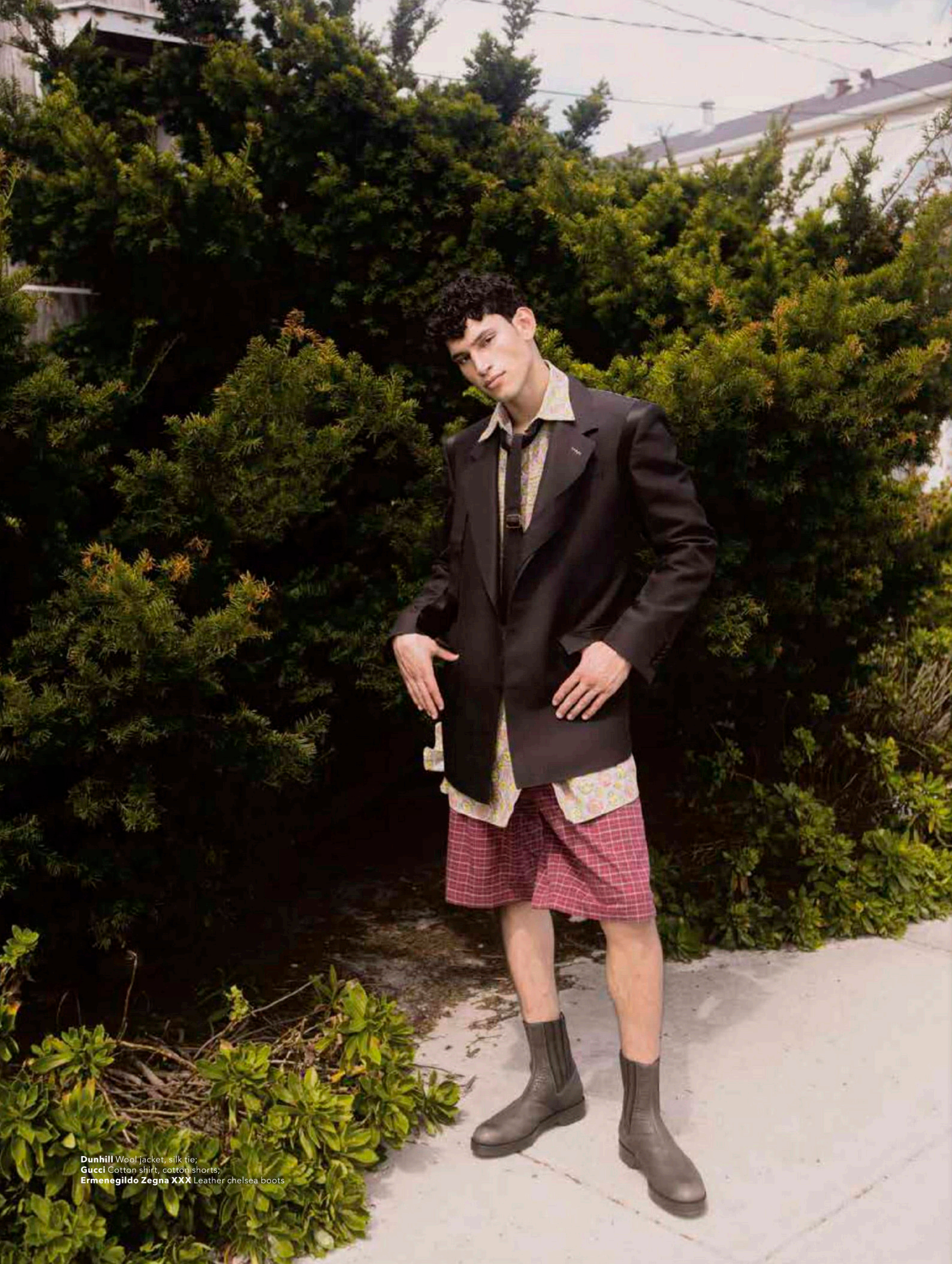
Louis Vuitton Wool jacket, wool overshirt

Ermenegildo Zegna XXX Wool-blend coat, wool jacket; **Dunhill** Cotton shirt

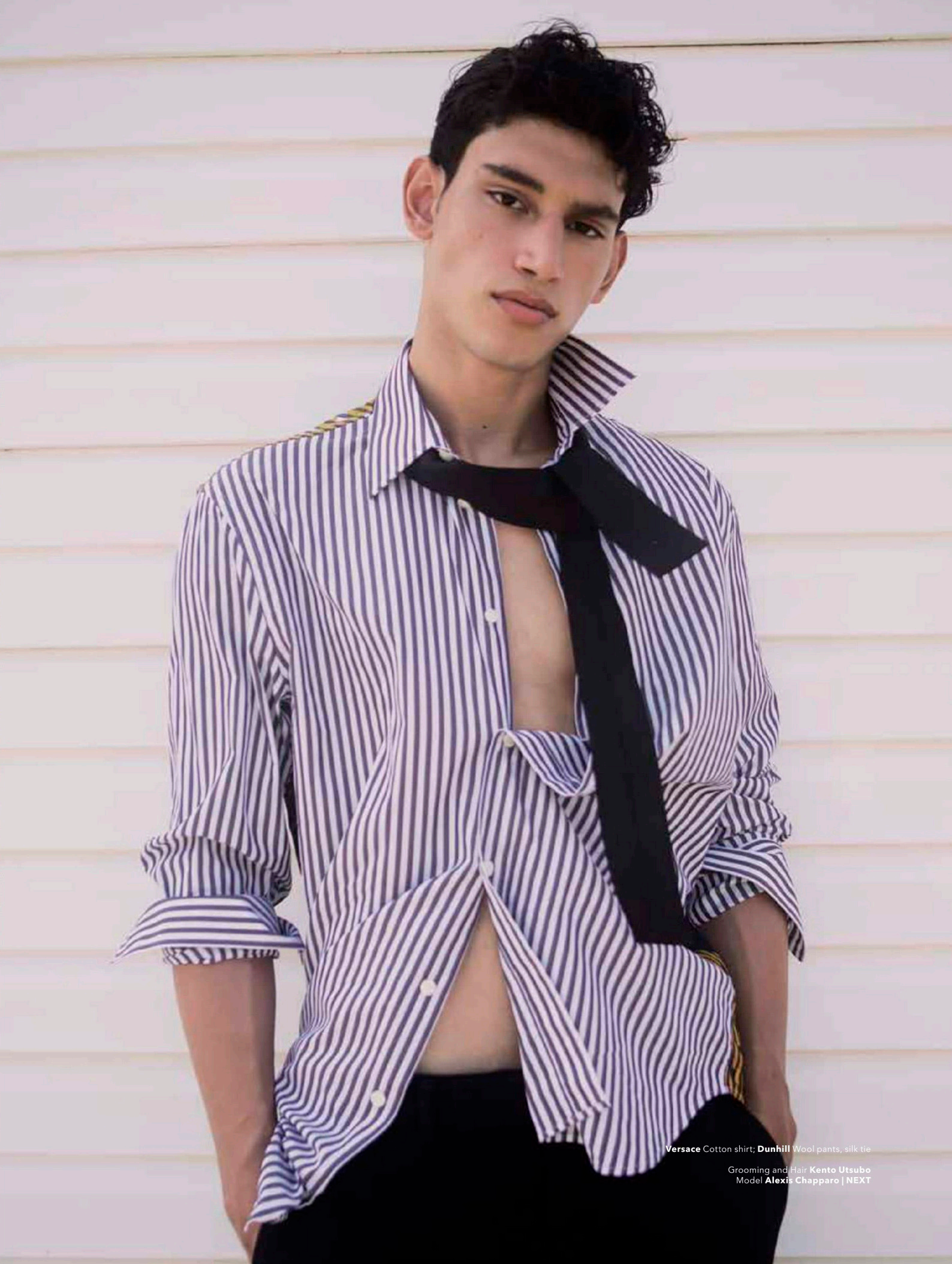
Comme des Garçons Homme Plus
Polyester-blend jacket, polyester top,
cotton skirt; **Versace** polyester sneakers

Moschino Leather and shearling coat, jeans, leather lace-up boots

Gucci Wool coat;
Louis Vuitton Polyester jacket,
leather sneakers; **Dunhill** Wool pants



Dunhill Wool jacket, silk tie;
Gucci Cotton shirt, cotton shorts;
Ermenegildo Zegna XXX Leather chelsea boots



Versace Cotton shirt; **Dunhill** Wool pants, silk tie

Grooming and Hair **Kento Utsubo**
Model **Alexis Chapparo | NEXT**

Versace Wool and nylon-blend peacoat, wool knit sweater, crystal and metal sunglasses

Mikhail
Co-Owner of Quinn Special Student Care Centre (@milkhaii)

Mikhail is not just a man with a big heart (he co-owns a a social enterprise that provides student care services and enrichment programs for children with special needs), he is also a man who is *livin' da vida loca* — his favourite activities include working out, gaming, watching anime and filming videos for TikTok.

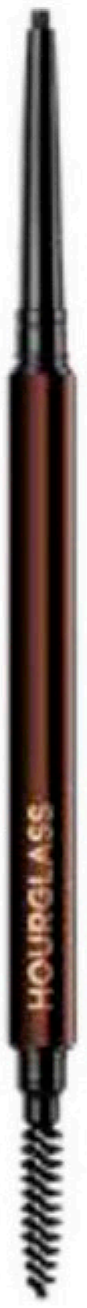
CAPITAL F

IT MIGHT SEEM OBVIOUS TO SAY THAT "F" STANDS FOR FASHION IN A FASHION ISSUE, BUT NEITHER DOES IT STAND FOR FAR-OUT, FOOLISH OR ANY FRIVOLOUS ADJECTIVES THAT START WITH AN "F".

THE "F" STANDS FOR "FUNCTIONAL" — THE FALL/WINTER '20 TRENDS FOR REAL MEN WHO LIVE REAL LIVES AND DO NOT COUNT ON THE 'GRAM LIKES TO MAKE A STATEMENT.

WHILE THE EIGHT TRENDS FEATURED MIGHT NOT RAKE IN THE HEARTS OR LIKES, THEY WILL WORK FOR THE OTHER THINGS IN LIFE — AND YES, EVEN THE FRIVOLOUS THINGS.

PHOTOGRAPHY **JEFF CHANG** STYLING & TEXT **BRYAN GOH**



Hourglass Arch Brow Micro Sculpting Pencil

NARS Komo Brow Perfector

Gucci Beauty Crayon Définition Sourcils

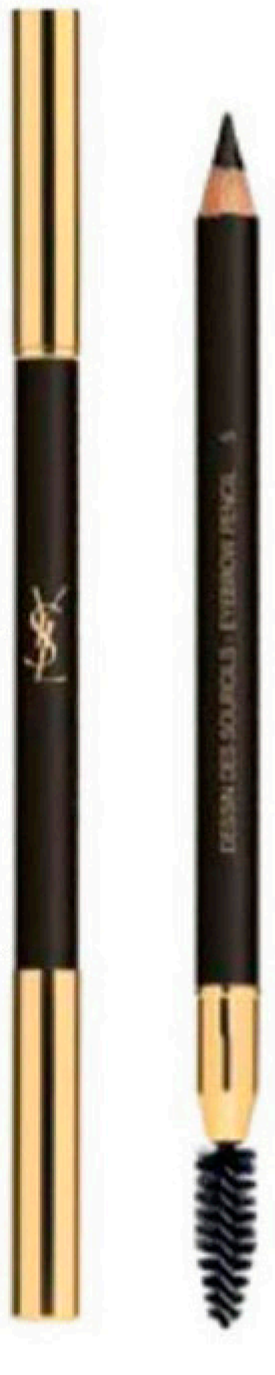
M.A.C Big Boost Fibre Brow Gel

THE THICK & FURRY

IT SHOULD BE THICK (MORE LEE MIN HO, LESS PETE WENTZ), IT SHOULD BE FURRY (NO CHEWBACCA JOKES HERE PLEASE) AND IT SHOULD NOT BE DIFFICULT TO ACHIEVE — MAKEUP AND HAIR STYLIST ZOEL TEE (@ZOEL.MAKEUP) RECOMMENDS GENTLY DIPPING A LASH SPOOLIE IN WET SOAP AND COMBING IT THROUGH THE BROWS. FINISH OFF BY SPRAYING SAID SPOOLIE WITH HAIRSPRAY AND COMB THROUGH ONCE OVER.

OR, JUST SAVE THE TROUBLE AND BUY ANY OF THESE PRODUCTS.

Fenty Bwauty Brow MVP



Yves Saint Laurent Beauty Dessin Des Sourcils Eyebrow Pencil

Chantecaille Full Brow Perfecting Gel

Charlotte Tilbury Legendary Brows

ANTI AGEING SERUM
Yves Saint Laurent Beauty
Pure Shots Lines Away

SUNSCREEN
Shiseido Global Suncare
The Perfect Protector

HAIR MIST
Klorane Mist Mint

BODY CLEANSER
Kiehl's Made For All
Body Cleanser

THE GREEN MILE

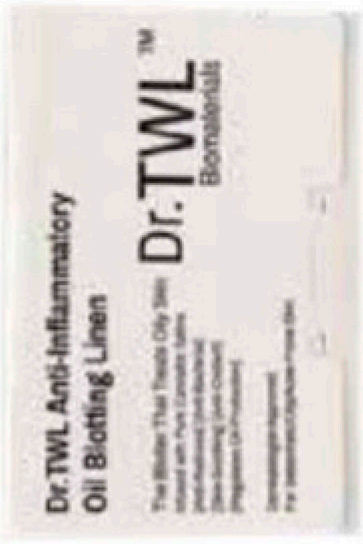
UNFORTUNATELY, THERE IS STILL A PORTION TO ONE'S DAILY ROUTINE THAT MIGHT HAVE BEEN RECTIFIED — THE GROOMING ROUTINE. WHILE SOME MIGHT CONSIDER THE S-WORD A LITTLE HARD TO SWALLOW — LOW TO NO CARBON FOOTPRINTS, RECYCLABLE OR UPCYCLED MATERIALS, FAIR WAGES FOR WORKERS, THE HEAVY USAGE OF NATURAL INGREDIENTS, NO SYNTHETICS USED, A COMPLETE LACK OF ANIMAL TESTING — THIS CHECKLIST IS OFTEN INTENSE.

HERE, SOME PRODUCTS TO EASE ONE INTO A MORE SUSTAINABLE WAY OF USING SKINCARE. SOME ARE MADE FROM RECYCLED MATERIALS, SOME ARE REFILLABLE AND ALL OF THEM DO NOT CONTAIN THE CHEMICAL NASTIES THAT ARE WASHED AWAY INTO THE SHOWER DRAIN AND INTO THE SEA.

At TO 's, when the layers get
thick the facial and hair
ne gets simpler.

BODY LOTION
Philosophy Cream-to-water Body
Lotion with Cactus Fruit Extract

SUNSCREEN
Caudalie Anti-Wrinkle
Face Sun Care SPF 50

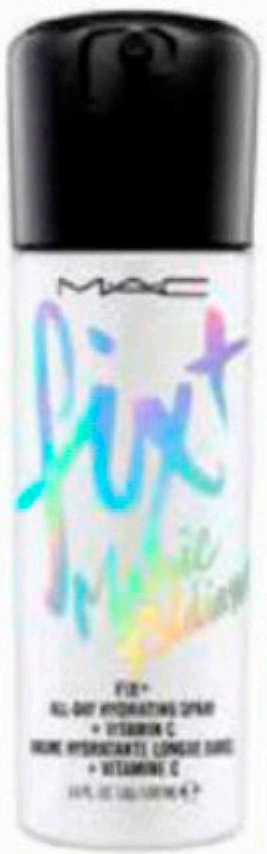


OIL BLOTTER
Dr.TWL Anti-Inflammatory
Oil Blotting Linen

HAND CREAM
Björk & Berries Herbalist
Hand Cream / Escentials

FACIAL SERUM
The Ordinary Caffeine Solution 5% + EGCG / Escentials

EYE CREAM
Clarins Total Eye Lift



FACIAL MIST
M.A.C Prep+Prime Fix+ Magic Radiance

THE MUCHO ESPRESSO

SOME LIKE CAFFEINE IN SINGLE ORIGIN COFFEE THAT COSTS EIGHT DOLLARS AND SOME IN THREE-IN-ONE SACHETS — WE LIKE IT IN OUR SKINCARE.

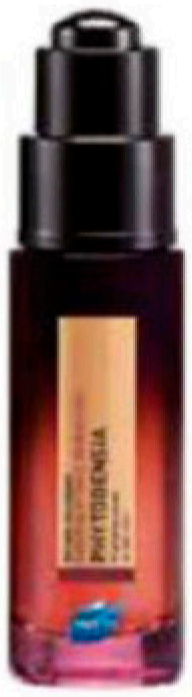
WHILE THE MOST IMMEDIATE EFFECT WOULD BE IN HOW CAFFEINE ENERGISES AND BRIGHTENS THE SKIN BY CONSTRICTING BLOOD VESSELS, THE LONG TERM EFFECTS ARE IN HOW IT PROTECTS AGAINST THE HARMFUL EFFECTS OF FREE RADICALS CREATED BY ENVIRONMENTAL POLLUTANTS AND UV RADIATION.

Bright peepers framed by natural brows and masculine swagger at Dolce&Gabbana.
One can easily look as good as this model at Ermenegildo Zegna XXX.
Look at these Hermès models and then look at one's self in the mirror — does he look equally well-rested?

HYDRATING LOTION
Lab Series Age Rescue Face Lotion

EYE GEL
Clinique Moisture Surge Eye 96-Hour Hydro Filler Concentrate

FACIAL SCRUB
Kiehl's Facial Fuel Energizing Scrub



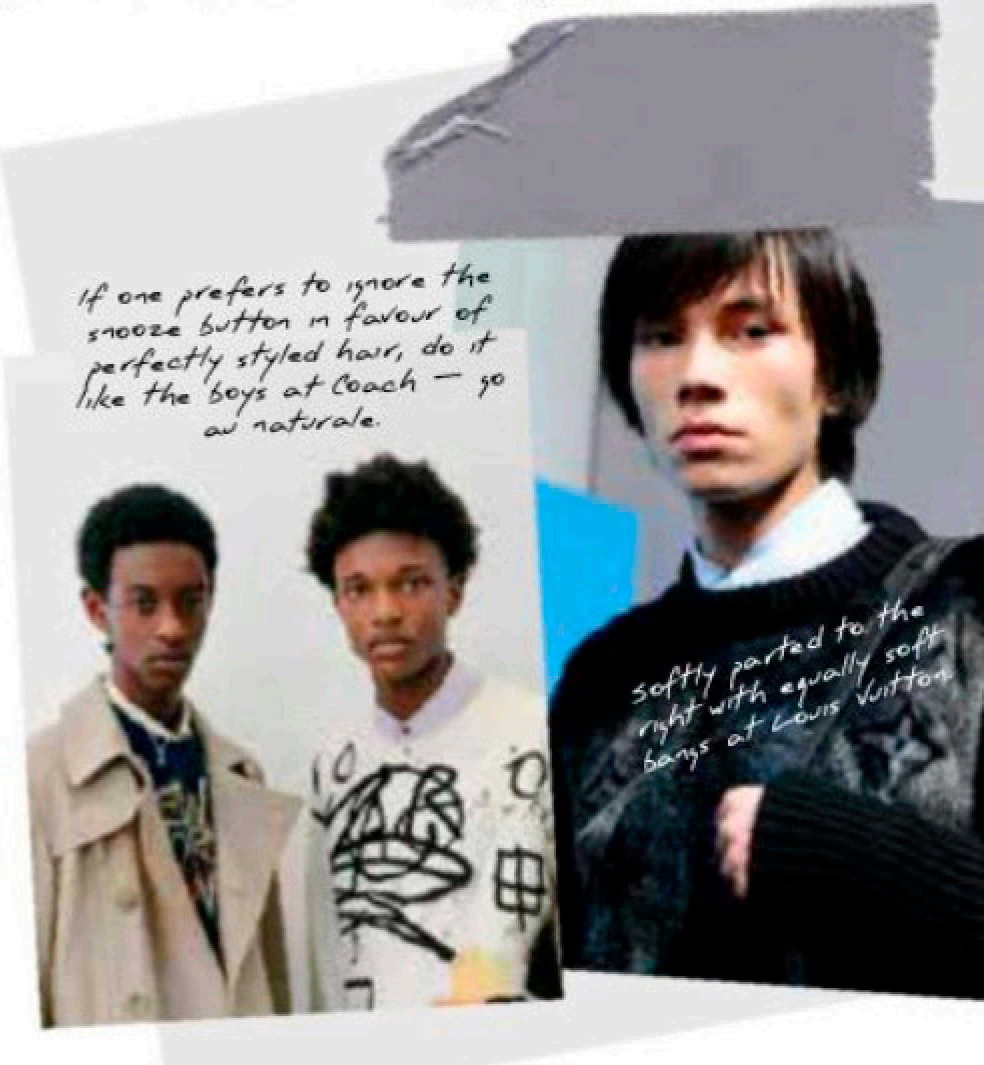
HAIR SERUM
Phyto Phytodensia Serum

HAIR TREATMENT
Shiseido Professional Adenovital Scalp Power-Shot

ANTI HAIRLOSS SHAMPOO
DrGL ® Cleanser Anti-Hairloss

HAIR CONDITIONER
Orbis Scalp Ism Conditioner

SCALP BALANCING SHAMPOO
The History of Whoo Whoospa Essence Shampoo


If one prefers to ignore the snooze button in favour of perfectly styled hair, do it like the boys at Coach — go au naturale.
Softly parted to the right with equally soft bangs at Louis Vuitton

HAIR MIST
Drunk Elephant Wild Marula Tangle Spray

HAIRSPRAY
Hanz De Fuko Style Lock Hairspray

DETOXIFYING SHAMPOO
Klorane Aquatic Mint Detoxifying Shampoo

THE ROYAL PARTING

BEFORE ONE FLEXES HIS PROFESSIONAL COIFFED FOLLICLES, HE NEEDS TO GIVE TEXTURE TO GET TEXTURE AND BEFORE THAT, HE NEEDS TO GET HIS SCALP AND TRESSES UNDER CONTROL — BE IT BALANCING OILINESS OR DRYNESS.

ZOEL RECOMMENDS USING A COMB TO PART ONE'S HAIR TO THE SIDE BEFORE USING A FLAT BRUSH TO BROW DRY IT OVER. FINISH OFF WITH SOME HAIRSPRAY OR DRY SHAMPOO TO KEEP IT FRESH AND TEXTURISED.

Gucci Velvet jacket, wool sweater, cotton shirt, Jackie 1961 leather hobo bag; **Model's own** Pearl necklace

Dzakirin Zharfan
Part-Time Barber (@trumanhitam)

When Dzakirin is not giving his customers the perfect fade, he is most likely tinkering on any of the Adobe Creative Suite programmes as he is a graphic design student. He could also be playing the guitar or eating snacks.

KIEHL'S
SMOOTHING OIL-INFUSED LEAVE-IN CONCENTRATE
2.5 fl. oz. - 75 ml

LEAVE-IN TREATMENT
Kiehl's Damage Repairing & Rehydrating Leave-In Treatment

PHYTO professional
cire définition et brillance
au collagène d'acacia
shine defining wax
with acacia collagen

TEXTURISING WAX
Phyto Professional Shine Defining Wax

HANZ DE FUKO
DRY SHAMPOO

DRY SHAMPOO
Hanz De Fuko Dry Shampoo

THE SHAGGY DOOBY DOO

THE LOOK GOES BY DIFFERENT MONIKERS – THE "I HAVEN'T BRUSHED MY HAIR IN WEEKS", THE "PAUL MCCARTNEY MIGHT HAVE DONE IT FIRST" OR THE "WHY IS HEDI SLIMANE SO OBSESSED WITH IT" — BUT THE COMMON CONSENSUS IS THAT IT MAKES ONE APPEAR TO BE THE MOST CAREFREE VERSION OF HIMSELF.

FOR THE STYLING OF STRAIGHT HAIR, ZOEL RECOMMENDS CURLING IT (HOLD OFF THE COMBING) AND USING A MOUSSE TO GIVE IT SUBTLE SHINE AND HOLD. REFRAIN FROM USING HEAVIER CREAMS AS THEY USUALLY GREASE THE HAIR UP AND WEIGH IT DOWN.

Dr.TWL™
Dermaceuticals
Hair Thickening Mask

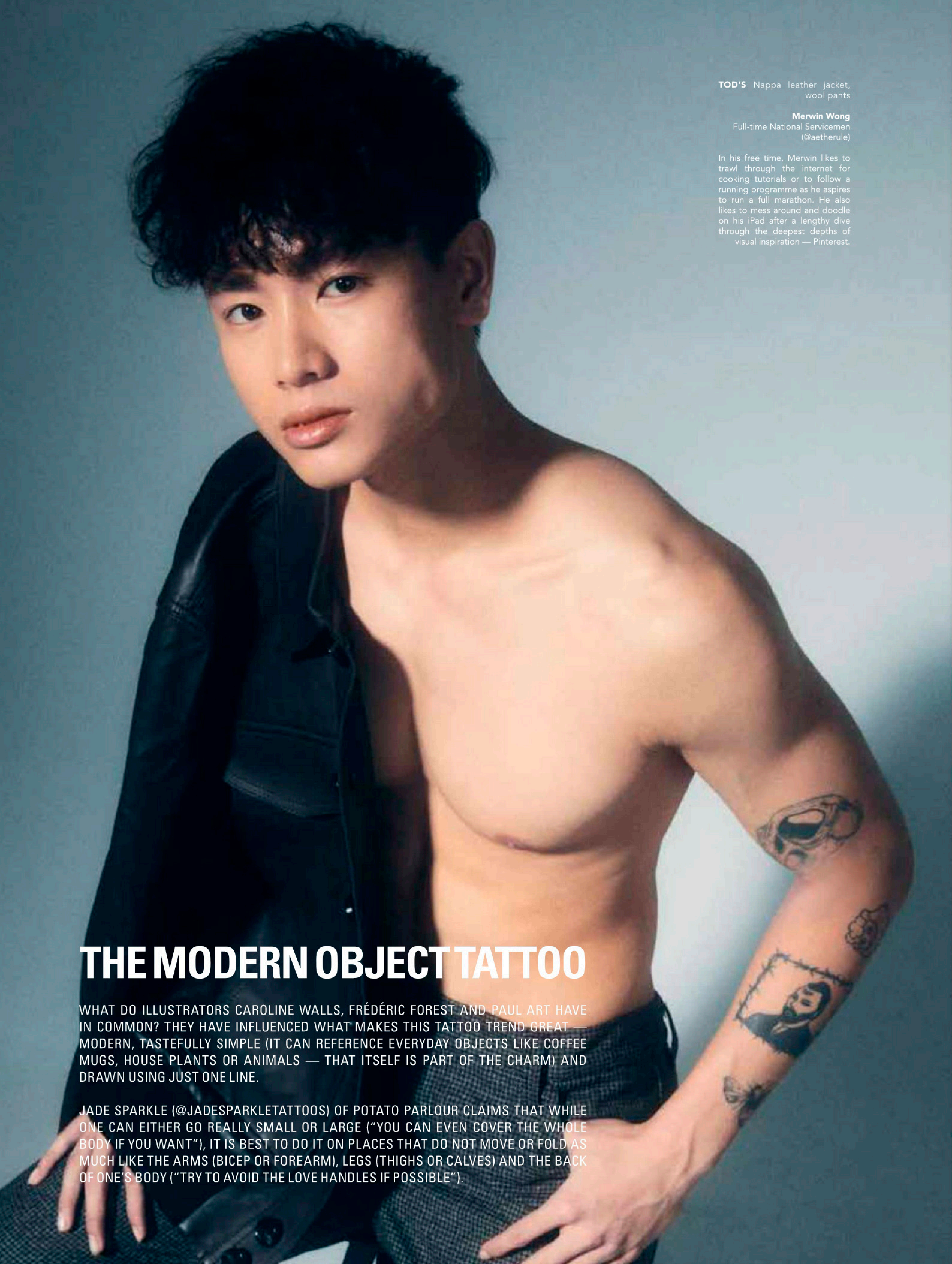
THICKENING MASK
Dr.TWL Dermaceuticals Hair Thickening Mask

HAIR rituel by sisley
Masque Purifiant Avant-Shampoing
Pre-Shampoo Purifying Mask
Hair & Scalp Care

PURIFYING MASK
Sisley Pre-Shampoo Purifying Mask with White Clay

SHISEIDO
PROFESSIONAL
STAGE WORKS
NUANCE CURL CREAM

TEXTURE CREAM
Shiseido Professional Stage Works Nuance Curl Cream



TOD'S Nappa leather jacket, wool pants

Merwin Wong
Full-time National Servicemen
(@aetherule)

In his free time, Merwin likes to trawl through the internet for cooking tutorials or to follow a running programme as he aspires to run a full marathon. He also likes to mess around and doodle on his iPad after a lengthy dive through the deepest depths of visual inspiration — Pinterest.

THE MODERN OBJECT TATTOO

WHAT DO ILLUSTRATORS CAROLINE WALLS, FRÉDÉRIC FOREST AND PAUL ART HAVE IN COMMON? THEY HAVE INFLUENCED WHAT MAKES THIS TATTOO TREND GREAT — MODERN, TASTEFULLY SIMPLE (IT CAN REFERENCE EVERYDAY OBJECTS LIKE COFFEE MUGS, HOUSE PLANTS OR ANIMALS — THAT ITSELF IS PART OF THE CHARM) AND DRAWN USING JUST ONE LINE.

JADE SPARKLE (@JADESPARKLETATTOOS) OF POTATO PARLOUR CLAIMS THAT WHILE ONE CAN EITHER GO REALLY SMALL OR LARGE ("YOU CAN EVEN COVER THE WHOLE BODY IF YOU WANT"), IT IS BEST TO DO IT ON PLACES THAT DO NOT MOVE OR FOLD AS MUCH LIKE THE ARMS (BICEP OR FOREARM), LEGS (THIGHS OR CALVES) AND THE BACK OF ONE'S BODY ("TRY TO AVOID THE LOVE HANDLES IF POSSIBLE").

THE BODY COUNT

BEFORE ONE GETS THE INK, HE SHOULD PREP HIS BODY FIRST — THESE ARE JUST RULES TO THE GAME.

Strip AFT Hair Removal

Exclusive to Strip, the AFT machine uses five centimetre applicators (as compared to the usual three) and a narrower wavelength that eliminates up to 80% of one's hair.
No pain, more gain.

Calvin Chan Aesthetics Trifecta Programme

Three different synergistic methods — Slim i-LIPO that breaks fat cells down, EMSCULPT that is the equivalent of 20,000 crunches in 30 minutes and Exilis Ultra 360 that slims, shapes and sculpts even the most problematic areas of stubborn fat.

Wellaholic Boyzilian Hair Removal

The removal process involves SHR (Super Hair Removal) that uses gentle pulses of energy at a higher frequency to target both fine and coarse hairs for less discomfort and pain on the skin.

DrGL Dr Spa Shape & Life Dynamic

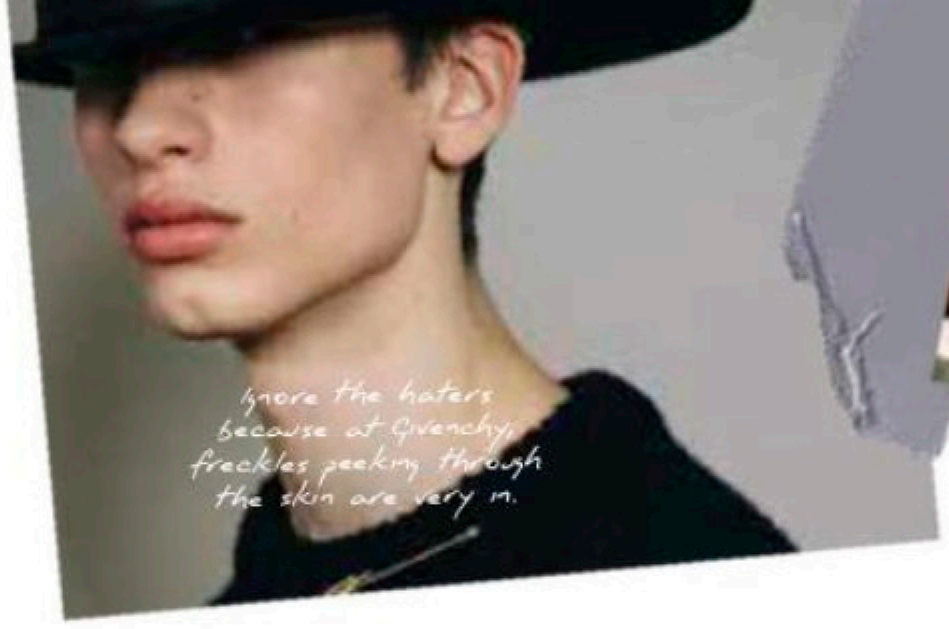
Harnessing an advanced aerodynamic air suction technology, pressured air re-energises the skin cells to help the body eliminate stubborn fat and cellulite while boosting lymphatic drainage.

Only Aesthetics Onlifit

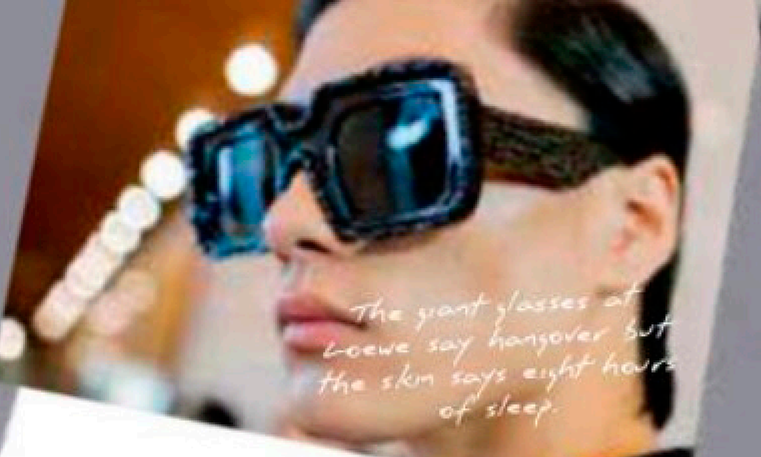
One's muscles are contracted 70,000 times with just one session (akin to a post-intensive workout done regularly for six months with a very strict diet) of this technologically advanced body sculpting treatment.

IDS UFC Series

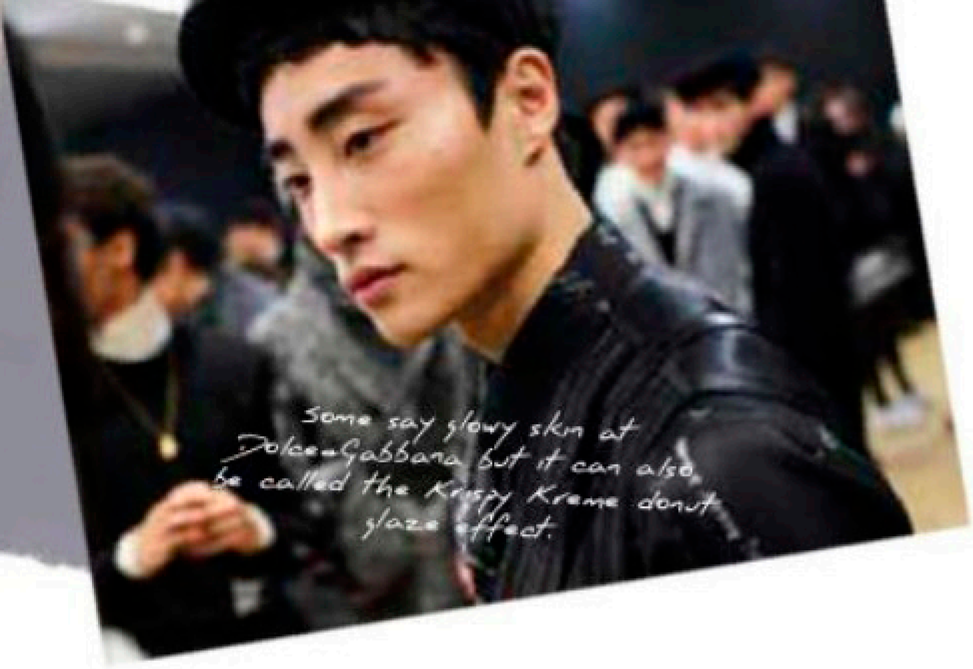
Named after the American mixed martial arts promotion company, the UFC in this treatment takes on a new meaning — "U" for Ultherapy to lift and tighten, "F" for Thermage FLX to smoothen and contour and "C" for Coolsculpt® to blast stubborn fat.



Ignore the haters because at Givenchy, freckles peeking through the skin are very in.



The giant glasses at Loewe say hangover but the skin says eight hours of sleep.



Some say glowy skin at Dolce&Gabbana but it can also be called the Krispy Kreme donut glaze effect.

ILLUMINATING PRIMER
Tom Ford Illuminating Primer

ILLUMINATING CREAM
Charlotte Tilbury Charlotte's Magic Cream Light

HYDRATING GEL
Chanel Boy de Chanel Fortifying Gel Moisturiser

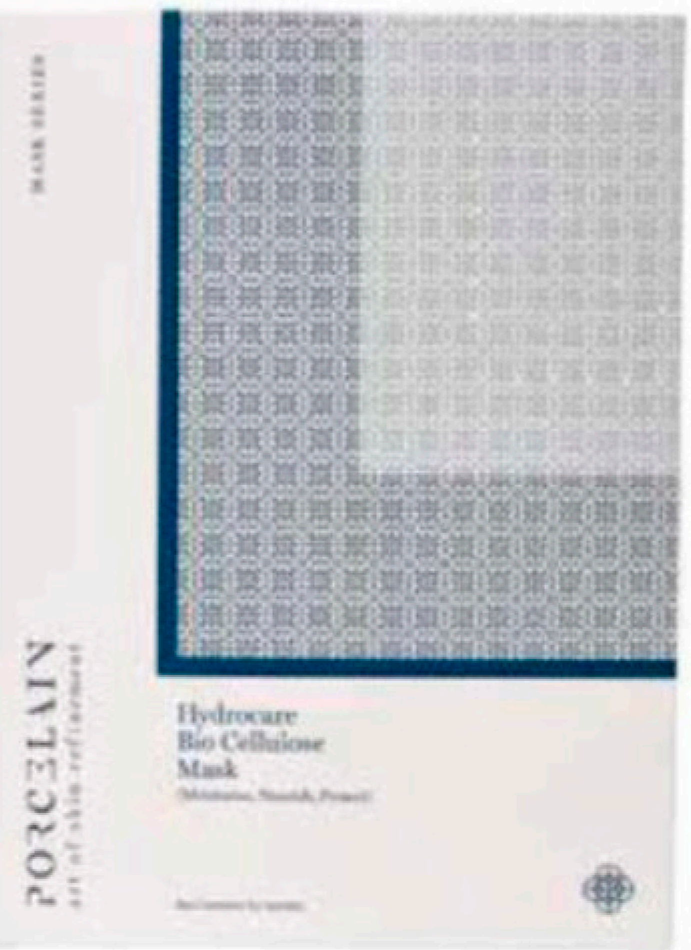
BRIGHTENING SERUM
Kiehl's Clearly Corrective™ Dark Spot Solution

TINTED PRIMER
M.A.C Lightful C Tinted Primer SPF45/PA++++

TINTED MOISTURISER
Hourglass Illusion Hyaluronic Skin Tint

NIGHT TREATMENT
NARSskin Restorative Night Treatment

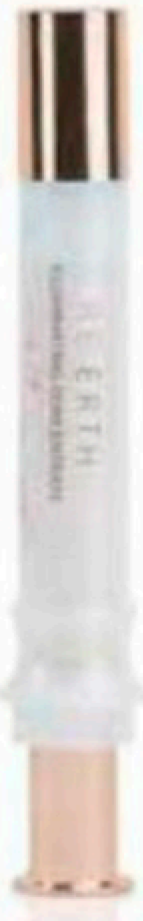
GEL CREME
Marc Jacobs Beauty Youthquake Hydra-Full Retexturizing Gel Crème Moisturiser



SHEET MASK
Porcelain Hydrocare Bio-Cellulose Mask

SUNBLOCK
Sum37 Losec Summa Lumiere Sun Protector 50ml SPF50+ PA+++

MATTIFYING PRIMER
Fenty Beauty Pro Filt'r Mattifying Primer



BRIGHTENING TREATMENT
RE:ERTH Illuminating Concentrate

BLURRING MOISTURISER
Lab Series Instant Filter Moisturizer

THE NAKED ALIBI

SOME ARE PRIMERS THAT CONCEAL THE DEBAUCHERIES CAUSED BY A (OR SEVERAL) LATE NIGHT WHILE SOME ARE PRODUCTS THAT PREVENT THE EFFECTS FROM HAPPENING IN THE FIRST PLACE.

HERE, THE CREME (SOME, QUITE LITERALLY) OF THE CROP THAT EITHER BRIGHTEN, MATTIFY, ILLUMINATE OR REDUCE THE SHOCK ONE GETS WHEN HE LOOKS IN A MIRROR.

THÉ YULONG
ARMANI/PRIVÉ

THE FIRST SIP OF TEA ON A MISTY SUNNY MORNING
Armani Prive The Yulong

BLEU DE CHANEL
BLEU DE CHANEL
BLEU DE CHANEL
PARFUM

THE DIVE OFF A CLIFF INTO A BLUE SPARKLING SEA
Chanel Bleu De Chanel Parfum Twist & Spray

Mr. BURBERRY
ELEMENT

THE FIRST SPLASH OF COLD WATER IN THE MORNING
Burberry Mr. Burberry Element

BVLGARI
MAN
GLACIAL ESSENCE

THE CHILLING EXPEDITION TO A FROZEN TUNDRA
Bvlgari Man Glacier

THE HEART-POUNDING THRILL OF A ROMANTIC CHASE
Dior Homme Eau de Toilette

tommy
TOMMY HILFIGER
tommy

THE PICTURE PERFECT POLAROID OF ONE'S YOUTH
Tommy Hilfiger Tommy For Him

GUCCI
GUILTY
EAU DE PARFUM
POUR HOMME
GUCCI GUILTY
EAU DE PARFUM POUR HOMME

THE FLASHING LIGHTS OF A CLUB NEARING CLOSING
Gucci Guilty Eau de Parfum For Him

TERRE D'HERMÈS

THE BARE FOOTED WALK DOWN A FOREST TRAIL
Hermès Terre d'Hermès Eau de Toilette Limited Edition 2020

TOM FORD
ROSE PRICK
EAU DE PARFUM
50 ML

THE SMELL OF ONE'S SHEETS AFTER A SEXY NIGHT
Tom Ford Rose Prick

Ermenegildo Zegna
ESSENZE
ROMAN WOOD

THE ATMOSPHERIC AMBIENCE OF A SPEAKEASY BAR
Zegna Essenze Roman Wood

MÉTÉORE
LOUIS VUITTON

THE FIRST BREATH OF FRESH AIR AT SUNRISE
Louis Vuitton Météore

THE DESIGNER HOUSE PERFUMES

TECHNICALLY, CULT BRANDS COULD HAVE BEEN INCLUDED FOR AN "EDGY" OR "COOL" CURATION BUT MORE OFTEN THAN NOT, WE FIND THEMSELVES GOING BACK TO THE ONES FROM DESIGNER HOUSES.

WHY? ONE IS NOT JUST SPRAYING ON A CAREFULLY CONCOCTED SCENT, HE IS ALSO SPRAYING A RICH FABRIC OF HISTORY ON HIMSELF — A STORY THAT IS NOT EXPLAINED USING MERE WORDS OR LYRICS.

HOW? FROM THE LOVING BUT TALENTED TOUCH OF THEIR PERFUMERS, SOME OF WHICH HAVE BEEN AT THE HOUSE FOR YEARS.

WHAT? THESE FRAGRANCES HERE ARE NOT JUST THE LATEST OR THE MOST STORIED, THEY ARE AN EXTENSION OF THE MAISONS — THE WORKINGS OF THE BRAND'S UNIVERSE ENSCONCED IN SEVERAL HANDSOME FLACONS.

COCO
BODU HITHI
Maldives

Coco Moments Await

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dhuni kolhu · maldives

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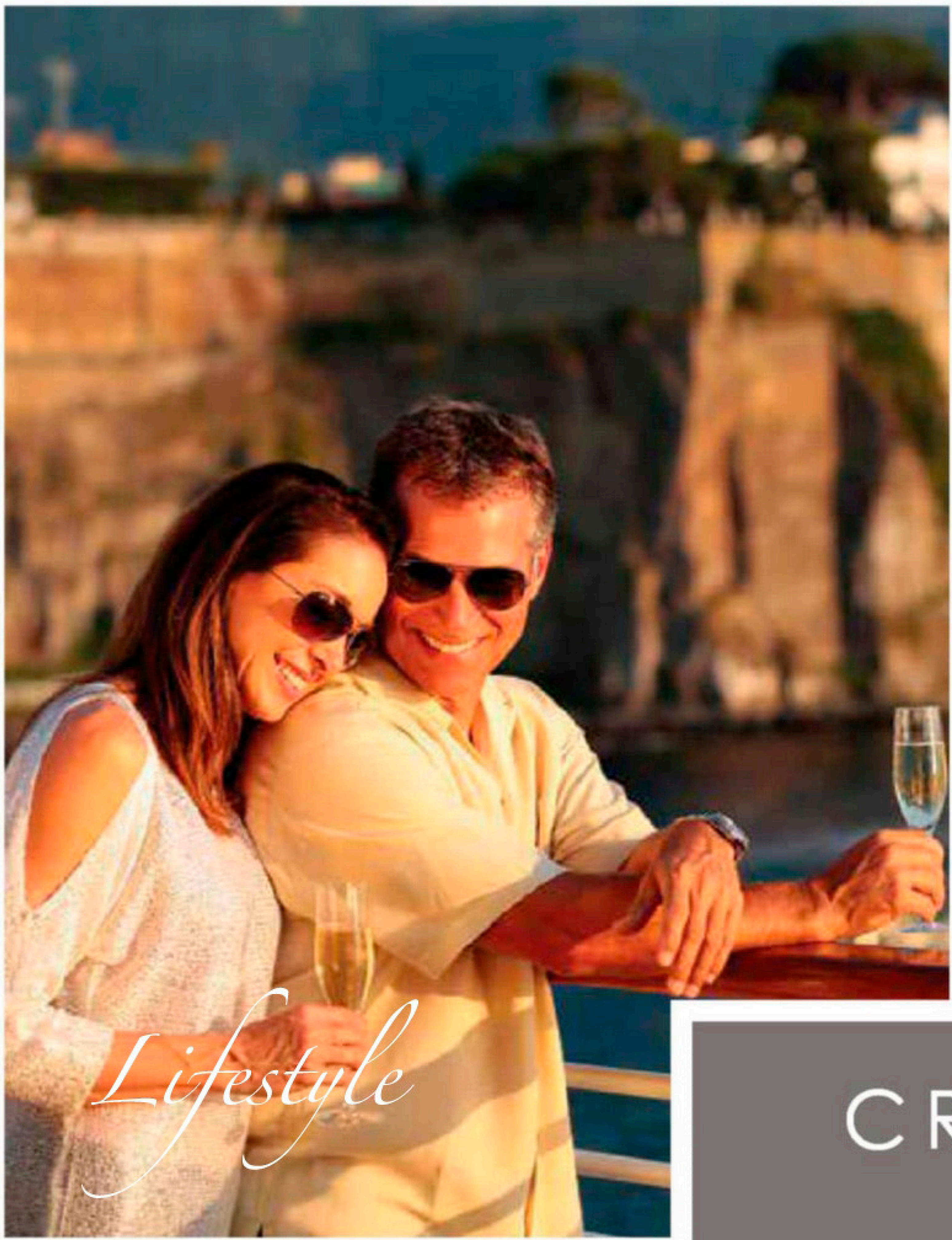
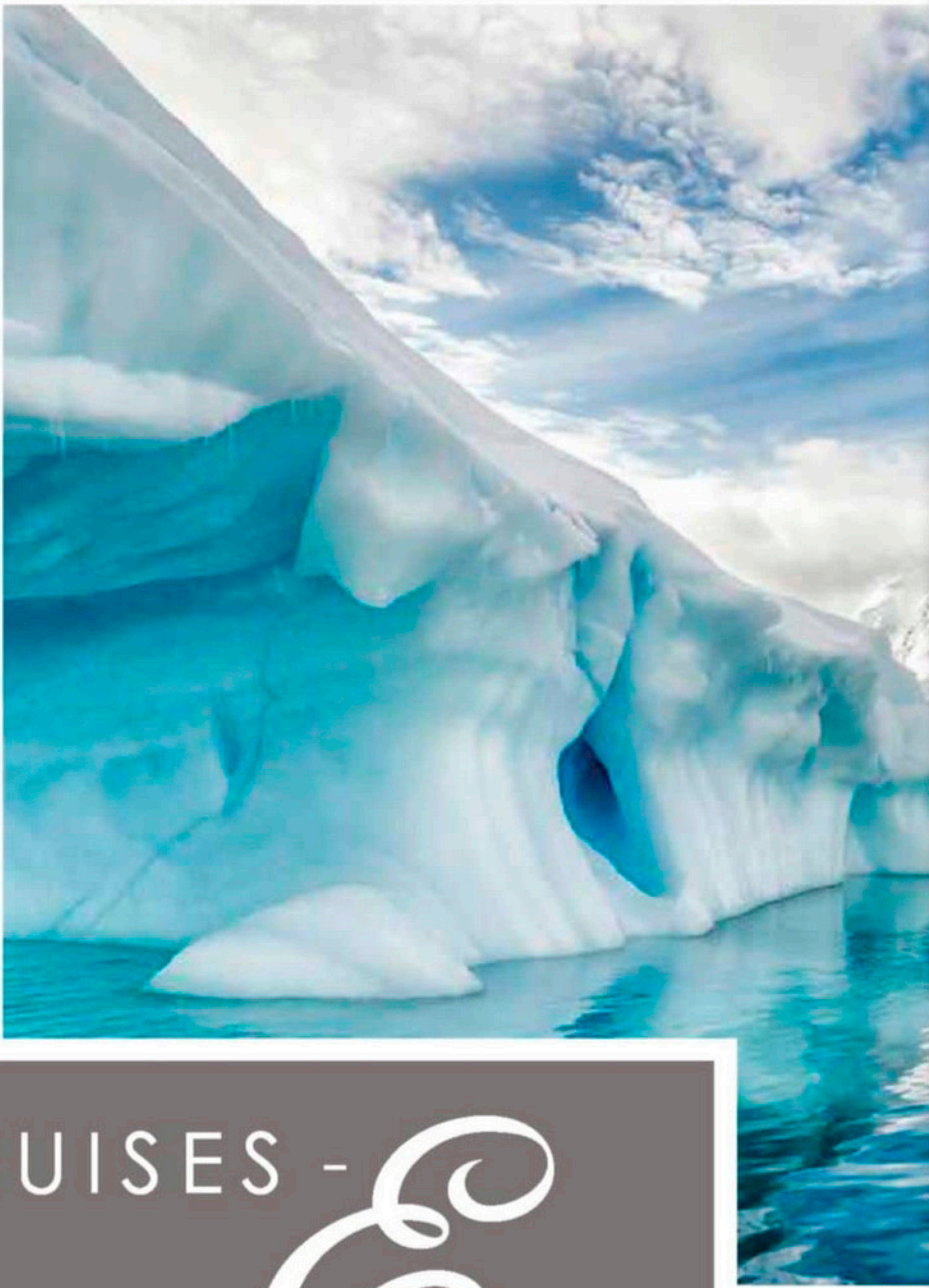
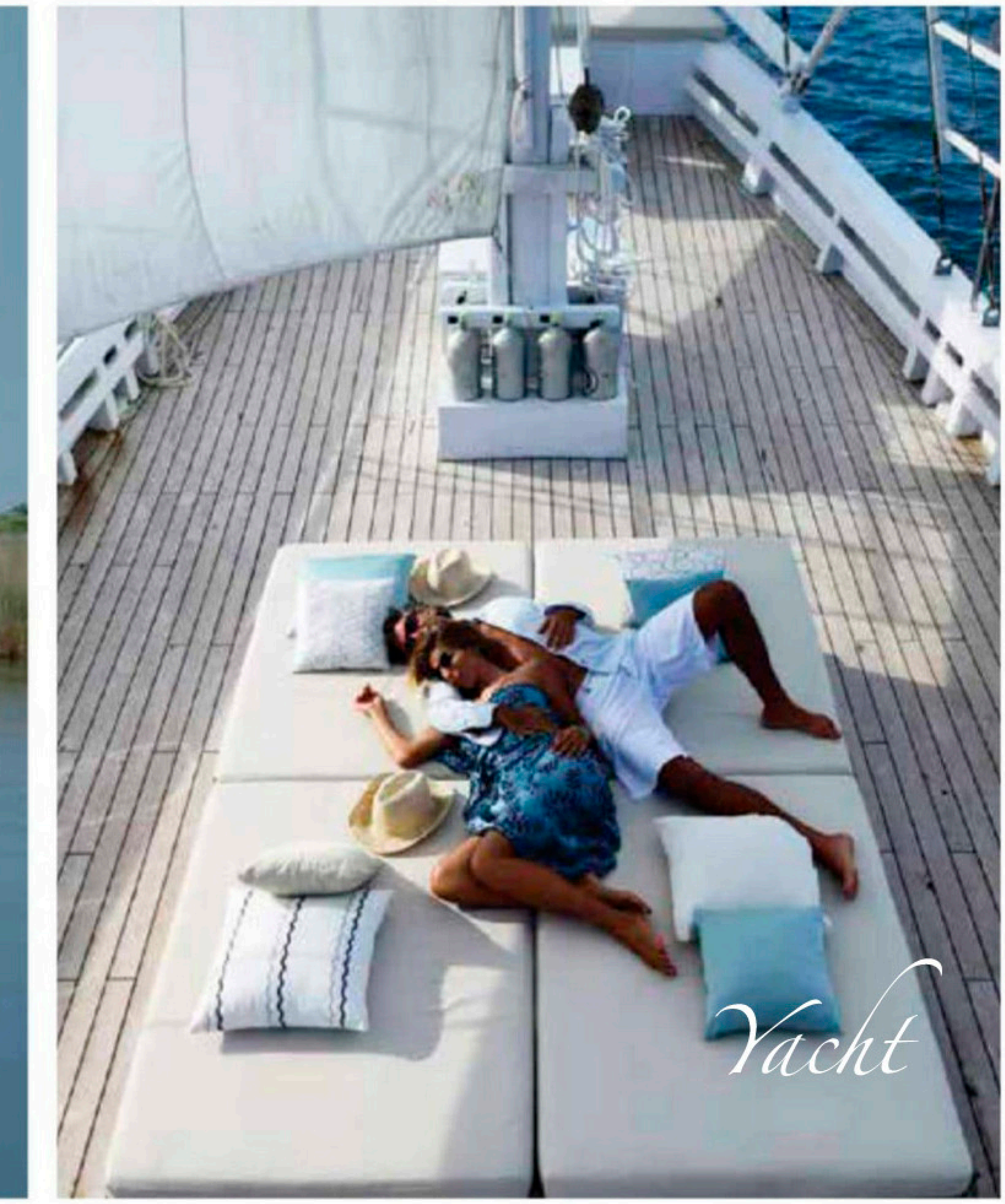




CRUISES - E

ZAMBEZI QUEEN
River

Expedition



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ONE-PUNCH CHEFS

No smoke and mirrors, or unpronounceable dishes at these nine establishments — just one dish on the menu that keeps diners coming back for more.

by Bryan Goh

It would be a relative ease to reference any one-hit wonders to provide context to this article — Breakfast at Tiffanys by Deep Blue Something, Mambo No. 5 (A little Bit Of) by Lou Bega and in more recent times, Somebody That I Used to Know by Gotye — but doing so would be a great disservice to these restaurants.

Instead, the reference would be drawn from the 2009 comic One Punch Man that revolves around Saitama — the main superhero who can defeat any opponent with a single punch.

Saitama's formidable punch is akin to how these restaurants operate — a strapping line-up of contenders but their crown jewel is that one special dish that packs a serious flavour punch.

AUSTRALIAN RIBEYE STRIPS — CAPITAL KITCHEN

While Capital Kitchen (formerly known as Capital Lounge) boasts Asian and Western fare that is served alongside a selection of wines, spirits and cocktails from Zouk, the OG here is the Australian ribeye steak. Seared to perfection (one might want to skip the mustard steak sauce because the steak tastes great on its own), the main contender is not to be missed but the venue also has enough options to keep any pescatarians happy.

Kingdom of Belgians

PIG'S HEAD TAGLIATELLE — REBEL REBEL

One might not know this but a pig's head is really delicious. Think of it like beef cheeks — as flavourful but even springier as the pig is using its mouth to chew all the time. While the Filipinos, Mexicans and Americans were on to something (sisig, pozole and souse respectively), Rebel Rebel literally fires it up with lime and chilli before serving it with creamy strands of tagliatelle.

The Halia

Capital Kitchen

KINGDOM OF BELGIANS — MOULE

Moules is neither pronounced "moo-lehs", nor is it pronounced as "moles". It is pronounced "mools" and is the fancy French variation of mussels. Also, the fancy French way it is prepared. Served with milk bread instead of fries (Moules-pain au lait?), the moules are cooked in three flavours (the classic Mariniere that uses white wine, celery, onion and parsley or in local flavours such as Laksa and Chili Crab) and in two sizes — 300 or 750 grams.

Rebel Rebel

SINGAPORE-STYLE CHILLI CRAB SPAGHETTINI — THE HALIA

Chilli crab-anything has ran its course like salted egg or gula melaka-anything but what if one is one of the pioneers of chilli crab spaghettini (the difference between spaghetti and spaghettini is that the latter is thinner)? The Halia's version is still served with generous chunks of crab and their Signature Chilli Crab Sauce so think of it as comfort food. The portion is satisfying and so are the health results — it has been scientifically proven that pasta enthusiasts are less likely to be overweight or obese than their pasta-phobic counterparts.

Sapporo Miso Ramen

BEEF TENDERLOIN — ARTEMIS GRILL

While Artemis Grill offers a seasonal menu inspired by the culinary diversity of the Mediterranean (gazpacho, Fremantle octopus, fine de claire oysters and sweet pea risotto), the perpetual player on the menu is their Tenderloin — 200 grams of perfectly seared meat plated with red wine shallots, bone marrow sourdough and black pepper jus.

Bistecca Tuscan Steakhouse

DURIAN SEMIFREDDO — SPRMRKT

How did SPRMRKT up the ante on a childhood favourite? The ice cream is made using luscious Mao Shan Wang durian pulp that has been folded into separately whipped egg whites and egg yolks before being frozen for three hours. The crisp-looking wafer holding it together? A crispy taco-shaped wafer that provides a satisfying crunch.

Zafferano

SAPPORO MISO RAMEN — SAPPORO NISHIYAMA RAMEN/GREAT WORLD CITY

The story of the famed miso ramen starts in 1954 where it began at a street vendor's stall. While previous offerings included tonkotsu broth flavoured with shoyu, miso was introduced and soon became a hit. Fast forward 73 years later, Sapporo ramen (a crinkly version that has a stretchy and firm texture) is still used here and so are the flavours that can only come with miso — salty, sweet and a rich depth in umami.

Artemis Grill

1.1KG FIORENTINA SHARING STEAK — BISTECCA TUSCAN STEAKHOUSE

Sourced from the creme of the crop of cattles, the thick cut of Fiorentina Sharing Steak is prepared the traditional Tuscan way (over a high temperature wood-fired grill) that produces a charred crust and a tender, juicy centre. To contextualise its portion, it took four, big-eating members of the Men's Folio editorial team to polish it off.

SPRMRKT

SCAMPI — ZAFFERANO

Scampi is the Italian plural of scampo, a variety of large shrimp. But according to Head Chef Andrea De Paola, it is a reflection of his journey from Italy to Asia — one that sees the sweet and nutty flavours of the shrimp being accompanied by caramelised white miso sauce from Japan, sweet and nutty florist of Romanesco and a reduction of langoustine shells with sparkling water. The recipe sounds like a mouthful but so is the dish, in a good way of course.

A BOY WALKS INTO A BAR

The punchline to the above joke goes, "the cocktails are shockingly priced above $25" and the wise solution would be to build one's own home bar.

by Bryan Goh

It is very hot outside (at the time of reporting, the forecasted weather for the month was forecasted to be at a searing 33 degrees celsius) and one might feel like retreating to a cool bar and paying for a cocktail. In this unstable economy, it would be akin to ripping his limbs off. While it might be near impossible to replicate one's favourite bar ambience in his home (plush barstools, elevated bar food, attractive people). Here, some spirits to lift one's own at home — with the air conditioning turned to full blast.

CHIVAS REGAL
MIZUNARA
BLENDED SCOTCH WHISKY

CHIVAS REGAL MIZUNARA

The Name: Mizunara means "water oak" in Japanese and is a reference to the wood that Mizunara barrels are made of — one that has to come from a tree that is at least 200 years old which in turn, makes it incredibly rare.

The Nose: Light, subtly nutty and sweet — the latter comes through with honeyed white peach, toffee-coated pears and vanilla-rich cream.

The Palate: Oak notes, grain and toasted cereal notes provides depth in warmth while a fruity touch of pears, bananas and apricots tempers the heat.

The Finish: Despite being packed with a fruity flavour, pepper, clove and ginger notes gives it a dry spicy touch.

MONKEY SHOULDER

GLENFIDDICH 15 YEAR OLD

The Name: "15" is a reference to 15 year-old Glenfiddich and the Solera is the name of the vat that said Glenfiddich goes into to mix with whisky from previous batches.
The Nose: Creamy banana, dried apricots and sweet raisins that meld beautifully with lemon peel, buttercream frosting and marzipan.
The Palate: While thin in body, vanilla, coconut water and nougat peeks through for a small but pleasant flavour bomb. Adding a small amount of water for a green banana note with a slightly sweeter palate.
The Finish: Nutty and sweet with finishing hints of dry oaky tannins and charcoal.

THE BALVENIE

PENFOLDS CABERNET SHIRAZ BIN 389

The Name: Penfolds is a reference to the surname of founder Christopher Penfold who first invented a wine tonic for the treatment of anaemia.
The Nose: Wet meets dry — the former being wet bracken and damp soil and the latter, dark berry fruits, dried shiitake mushroom and sesame. There is no need to tease out the "scent" as one can immediately get a whiff of it from his glass.
The Palate: A granita-like bite with an appetising acidity that is accompanied with the earthiness of black liquorice root and anise.
The Finish: The elegant finish of mineral notes of pencil lead. Yes, one is reading this right.

VSOP
MARTELL
VSOP

GLENMORANGIE THE QUINTA RUBAN

The Name: Quinta is gaelic for wine estates and Ruban is a reference to ruby — namely, the Ruby Port casks from Portugal used to mature this spirit.
The Nose: Milky coffee gets a sugary sprinkling of almond pastries, tart summer fruits and aromatic cedar.
The Palate: Creamy chocolate mousse atop spicy bourbon biscuits and finished off with a more pronounced almond note — this time, toasted.
The Finish: The lasting richness of stewed berries and intense dark chocolate.

MONKEY SHOULDER

The Name: The "Batch 27" on the bottle is a reference to Monkey Shoulder's original experimental batching of 27 casks — each bottle is now made 27 casts at a time.
The Nose: Lightly sweet and round with a touch of citrusy lemon.
The Palate: Notes of lemon peel and caramel with a short taste of nought at the end. If one adds a small amount of water, it takes on a lemon salt-water taffy flavour.
The Finish: Nutty and sweet with finishing hints of dry oaky tannins and charcoal.

Glenfiddich

THE BALVENIE STORIES 26 YEAR OLD A DAY OF DARK BARLEY

The Name: A Day of Dark Barley is a reference when Balvenie mashman Brian Webster and maltman Robbie Gormley took in a delivery of dark barley (the ingredient is used more often to produce stout) and turned it into whisky.
The Nose: It is big on its malty notes but soft brown sugar, vanilla toffee and blossom lends a soft but delicious touch.
The Palate: Syrupy with a toffee-like sweetness, it is accompanied by citrus notes of orange peel and a small touch of cinnamon and ginger spices.
The Finish: Vanilla and oak spices concludes the story.

MARTELL VSOP RED BARRELS

The Name: VSOP is an acronym for Very Superior Old Pale — a reference to clear, colourless fruit brandy that has been aged for at least four years.
The Nose: Intense fruity aromas of cherry plum and greengage fruit first, and mellowed woody notes next.
The Palate: The full and broad intensity of plums, honeymoon peaches and apricots makes it delightfully fruity.
The Finish: Delicate notes of sweet spicy notes round out this complex cognac.

GLENMORANGIE
GLENMORANGIE

CAN'T KNOCK THE HUSTLE

A professional athlete from the EVOLVE Fight Team, a father to one-year old baby Leon and a full-time student — 25-year old Muay Thai fighter, Amir Khan shares his pre- and post-fight routine.

by Bryan Goh

I used to think juggling school and my career would be impossible to handle. When we first had our son, I thought I would not have the time.

Now, I have opened my eyes and I know that there is time for anything if you are willing to be disciplined to make said time for it.

I am also a lot more willing to learn and improve in every aspect and area of my life — be it at work, at home or outside interactions with people.

24 HOURS BEFORE THE FIGHT

MORNING

I used to eat oats with nuts, blueberries, and strawberries. Oats are high in carbohydrate content and it helps fuel my glycogen storage. It is also where one's main source of energy for the brain and body, which is especially useful for high-intensity sports.

I have recently started working with a sports nutritionist and he helps me optimise my eating habits while advising me on what is good or not to consume.

Now, I eat sugary cereals like honey stars in the morning when I wake up. The reason being is that sugary cereals help to release energy fast whereas raw oats take a longer time to release the energy needed to kickstart your day. For the types of intense training that I do in the morning, I need a quicker release of energy.

That is why these are the cereals that work for me and the recommended intake is also 45 grams of carbohydrates per hour.

We have started building a solid nutrition plan and this is what I will be following going forward in my daily life and for future fights.

AFTERNOON

Before the fight, I usually consume a high amount of carbohydrates, a moderate amount of protein and a limited amount of fat.

If I eat chicken rice, I will get plain white rice instead with steamed chicken. I generally eat four to five meals per day, including snacks like bread and rice crackers.

DINNER

My day to day meals are pretty simple. I will have steamed fish or grilled salmon and sometimes, even sushi and white rice.

There was a lot of trial and error, and I am currently focusing on a strategic protocol.

Even though I do not have an upcoming fight as of now, I have started working on my diet plans.

When I was younger, I used to eat mala and Thai food and it did not really use to affect my performance or body. As I aged, my body started to tell me I cannot do that anymore.

I have to be more conscious about what I eat leading up to the fight now.

PRE-FIGHT ROUTINE

I usually either watch movies or meditate. I used to meditate to wind down, but I was never consistent with it.

To be honest, I made a lot of changes to my daily routine over the Circuit Breaker. I had a lot of time to be by myself and with my family. Isolation was good for me because it forced me to really evaluate my routine without distraction from external factors or sources.

It made me a lot more disciplined and productive because I knew I had to take control of my life and find out what works best for me. I would say this pandemic has really helped to shape my mindset and perspective.

I envision myself coming out stronger every day and making the most of my life.

The downtime made me realise that I was not reaching my full potential. Thinking back, I was actually lazy and was not efficiently using my time. I value my time so much more and every second is truly precious now.

One of EVOLVE MMA's core values is continuous self- improvement. I live by that motto to strive to improve myself by 1% every day, to be better than I was yesterday and to unleash my potential in life.

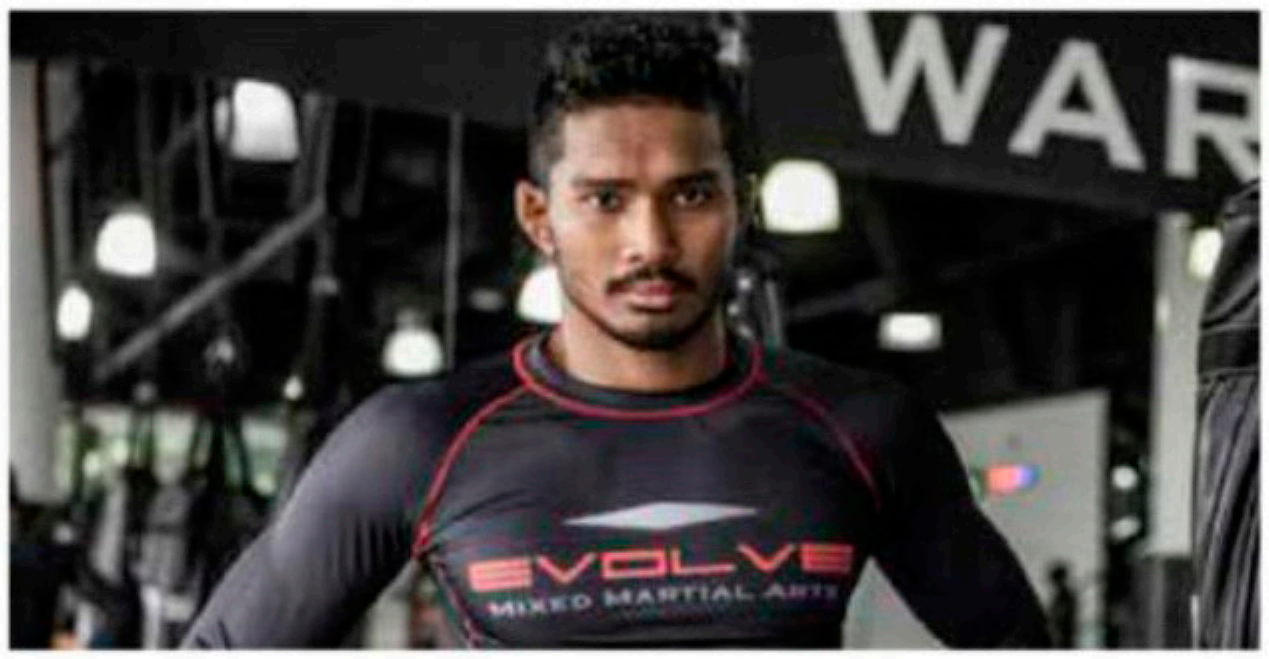
This is also the mindset I have adopted for future fights.

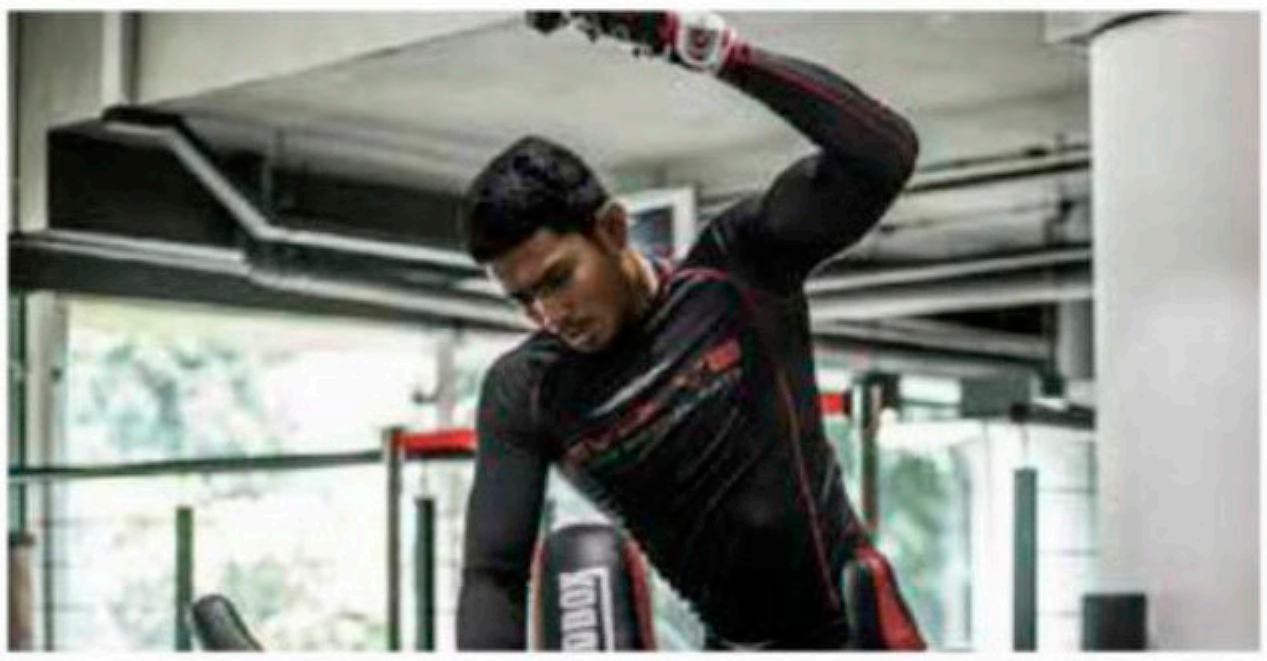
As athletes from the EVOLVE Fight Team, we train every day from nine a.m. to 11 a.m. and two p.m. to four p.m. After four p.m., I used to consider my day done. My mindset has since shifted to doing something that is good for me even after training.

I make a list of five to eight tasks a day so it will gradually help to improve all areas of my life. I break down what is important to me as an athlete — my relationship with my friends, training, family, school and work life.

I also think it is vital to equip yourself with knowledge and to always be open to learning new things and upgrading yourself.

I make sure I complete all these tasks before I go to sleep because it gives me a sense of achievement every day. I am winning every day because I take each task as an accomplishment. I am not too focused on thinking about when the next fight is but I will start with winning every day in my daily life.





CONDITIONING AND WORKOUTS

During the Circuit Breaker, my wife and I would go cycling. Halfway through, we usually make a pitstop for me to do bodyweight exercises. I sometimes supplement this by wearing a weighted vest where the goal is to slow the tempo of my bodyweight exercises to make it harder to execute.

For the last set, I will carry my baby and do lunges. He really enjoys the movements.

For days where I feel like a 100% of myself , I will push hard and for days where I feel under-recovered, I focus more on skill and technique.

An easy day is meant for recovery exercises, a medium day is for stimulation and the toughest and highest days requires volume output that is meant for development.

At EVOLVE MMA, we will usually decrease the volume of our workouts and taper the workouts in stages two weeks prior to a fight. For example, instead of two-hour training sessions, we do 30 minutes. The intensity is kept the same, but it is managed periodically.

The goal is to get rid of any soreness pre-fight so that we can maximise recovery time.

It is also important to do it correctly because if we taper or offload too much, it can cause us to underperform. We work very closely with the team of world champion instructors at EVOLVE MMA and follow the guidelines given by both our head coach, Siyar Bahadurzada, and strength and conditioning coach, Aqil Zainal at all times.

Communication is very important, and ultimately, you have to trust your team.

You do not want to think of new techniques and coaches generally do not want to correct your form leading up to a fight. You have to trust your instincts and believe in everything you have trained for up till that day. Six weeks prior to a fight is when you focus on structure.

There is no point in changing the habits and methods of an athlete two weeks prior to a fight as it will be counterproductive. Instilling doubt in an athlete is the worst thing you can do and we have been in the game for so long that everything we train for in the lead up to fight day should be integrated in our system.

GETTING A GOOD SLEEP

It is a tricky situation because I have a 17-month old baby son. He is going to go to pre-school next month so that will hopefully help ease our workload.

I get about eight to 10 hours of sleep before a fight. I believe that as an athlete, you should ideally spend nine to 10 hours in bed — even if you are not asleep. This is what I am trying to target.

During typical days, I do not achieve said hours but again, it comes down to discipline. I get more sleep over the weekends though.

FIGHT DAY

I normally feel excited, anxious, grateful and happy. There is never a fixed feeling and it is always a mixture of emotions but I try to be as relaxed and calm as possible.

In the two months leading up to the fight, there is some kind of pressure and tension build-up and people do not know about it. Even as a professional athlete, I do not really understand the pressure and how much it affects me.

Win or lose, I feel so relieved after a fight — like a weight has been lifted off my shoulders.

POST-FIGHT

I go all out for two days by splurging on myself and binge eating. My go-to is fast food – burgers, fries and local food like roti prata.

It will make me feel terrible but I know I only have a limited amount of time to binge eat and reward myself. It is the only time I can binge eat before I get back to my routine.

I usually get sick of letting myself go after two days.

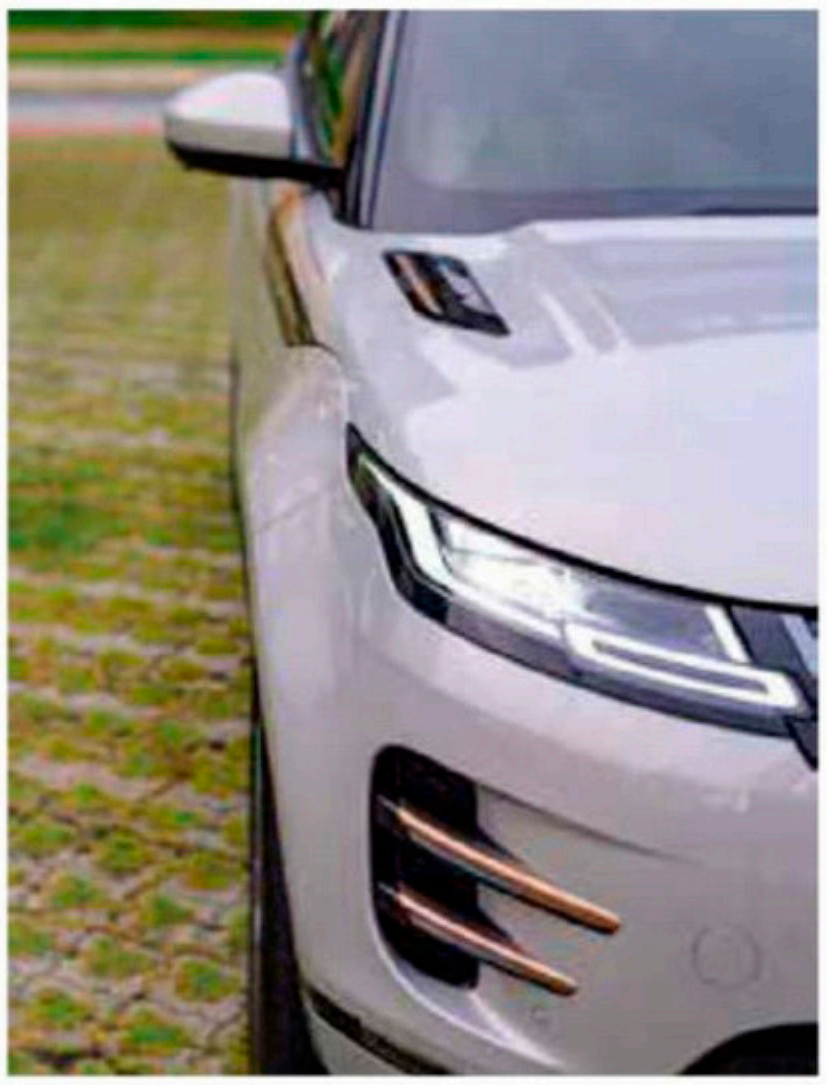
Amir Khan is an assistant instructor at EVOLVE Mixed Martial Arts in Singapore. Amir is currently 25-year old and he is only the third Singaporean professional fighter in history on the EVOLVE Fight Team. A Muay Thai fighter, Amir is one of the top lightweights in ONE Championship, Asia's largest sports media property in history. Amir also holds a Blue Belt in Brazilian Jiu-Jitsu under Master Relson Gracie.

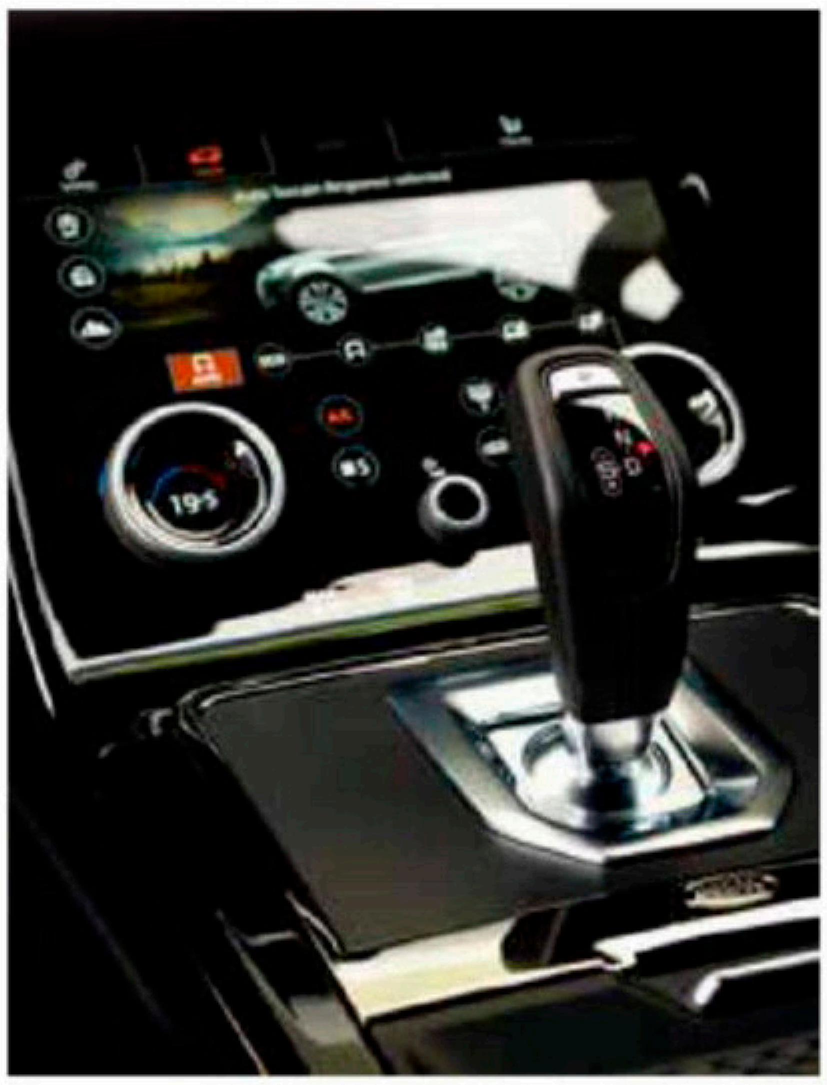
ANOTHER TECHNICAL KNOCKOUT

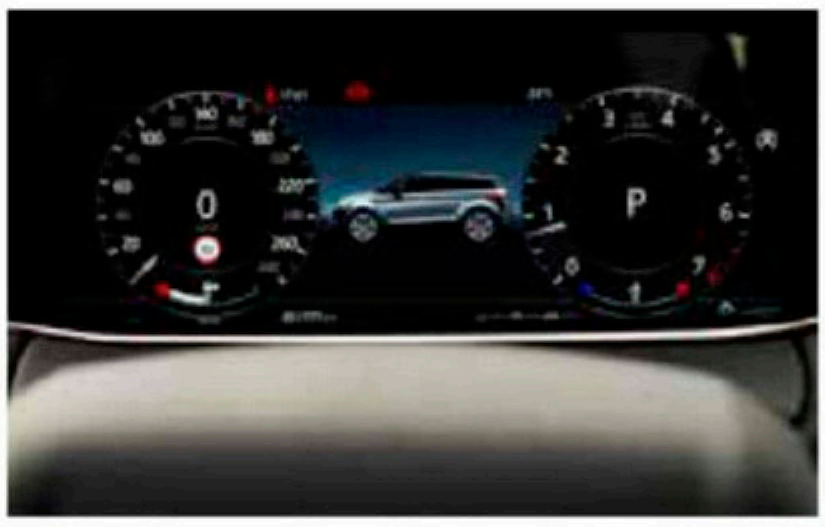
The 2020 Land Rover Range Rover Evoque blazes a new trail for the British automobile manufacturer.

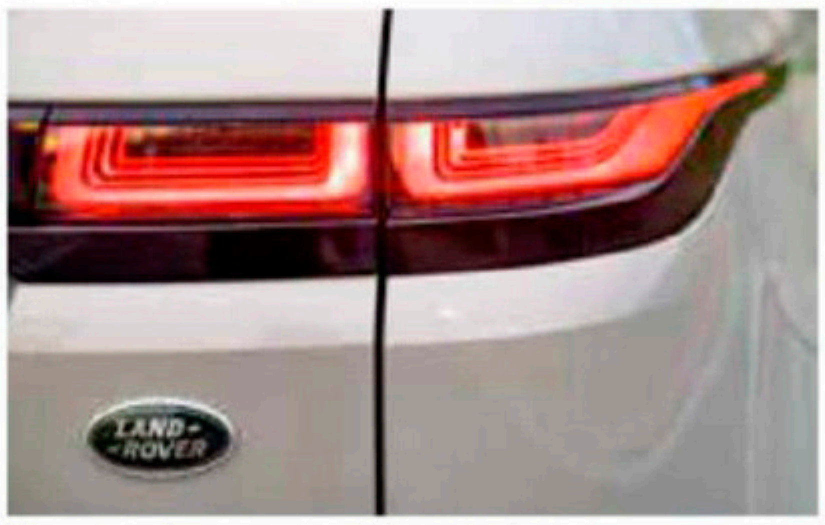
by Nawaf Rahman

Photos Range Rover









Sequels always have it tough thanks to a notorious reputation for always being "not as good as" the first edition. However, when they are done right, they can take the ingredients that made the original great and turn it into something even better; — visual proof that lightning can strike twice.

With regards to Range Rover, the second edition of the Evoque comes into focus. Launched over a decade ago, the first Evoque was a blockbuster hit when it set the sales charts on fire while changing Land Rover's brand image (previously one as a company that only did Alpha SUVs). After scooping up hundreds of awards, the Evoque is ready to evolve.

The brand was put on the radar of style setters when it first launched Victoria Beckham as its poster girl — the Evoque has always been a looker. For the 2020 edition, the British manufacturer refreshed the model's visual by merging the sleek lines of the Velar onto Evogue's smaller frame.

The muscular profile is enhanced by the rising beltline and the falling roofline which creates an assertive and dynamic stance. The compelling proportion that gives it an even greater presence has been combined with a new sleek headlight design featuring sweeping indicators, flush deployable door handles and burnished copper details to reflect the brand's contemporary aesthetic language.

Inside, there is a fusion of sophisticated elegance and clean uncluttered surfaces — the brand's stacked duo of 10-inch touchscreen handle audio, navigation, Apple CarPlay and Android Auto integration, general phone tasks and vehicle behaviour settings.

Eagle-eyed enthusiasts will notice that the wheelbase has been stretched by 21 millimetres to help increase rear passenger space whereas the boot is large and should suffice for average outstation tours. Jumping on the sustainability bandwagon, the brand now offers an option of a leather-like performance material or a Kvadrat interior — a wool-blend and synthetic suede cloth of which a little over half is made from plastic bottles (per vehicle). The Evoque also boasts the new Eucalyptus textile that makes use of fibres from the eucalyptus tree as less water is needed to grow it.

If one is looking to purchase a five-seat SUV, he is going to want it to perform well too. The 2020 Range Rover Evoque certainly delivers. For a machine that weighs in at 1,900 kilograms, the 2.0-litre Ingenium turbocharged inline four-engine produces 200bhp of power and 320Nm of torque (pushing peak torque out from 1300 to 4500rpm) which is able to push this beast from 0–100km/h in just 8.5 seconds. The drive feels balanced and grounded while the 9-speed auto transmission is responsive, intelligent and seamless.

It is also much more refined in terms of ride, handling and interior noise. With stiff competition from the likes of BMW X3, Audi Q3, Volvo XC40 and Jaguar E-Pace, Range Rover have strengthened and stiffened the body structure in key areas like suspension mounting points, so it soaks up bumps better. On the safety front, the 2020 Evoque comes with driver-assistance features like automatic emergency braking with pedestrian and cyclist detection, lane departure warning, lane-keeping assist and adaptive cruise control.

While the others make claim to be as good as they are on paved roads, the Range Rover Evoque comes with a number of tricks up its sleeve. It can wade through 23.6 inches of water (equivalent to a flash flood) and there are five driving modes for nearly any situation (like driving over sand, grass or mud) thanks to its 8.3-inch of ground clearance and 25-degree approach angle. An auto mode from the Terrain Responses 2 system enables the Evoque to select the most appropriate torque delivery to suit the terrain.

Great on the eyes and even greater when one has his hands on the wheel, this second-generation Range Rover Evoque ticks all the right boxes. It is a bigger car than what its compact dimensions would suggest — both in terms of practically and personality — while boasting sleeker styling, improved technology and powertrain options. Land Rover has successfully brought the Evoque into a new era and it stands above its segment rivals.

ASIA NOW

Kongo, the self-taught artist based in Paris started his career painting graffiti on the streets, has since made friends with Richard Mille and Pierre-Alexis Dumas, and currently has his sights on Southeast Asia.

by Nina Starr

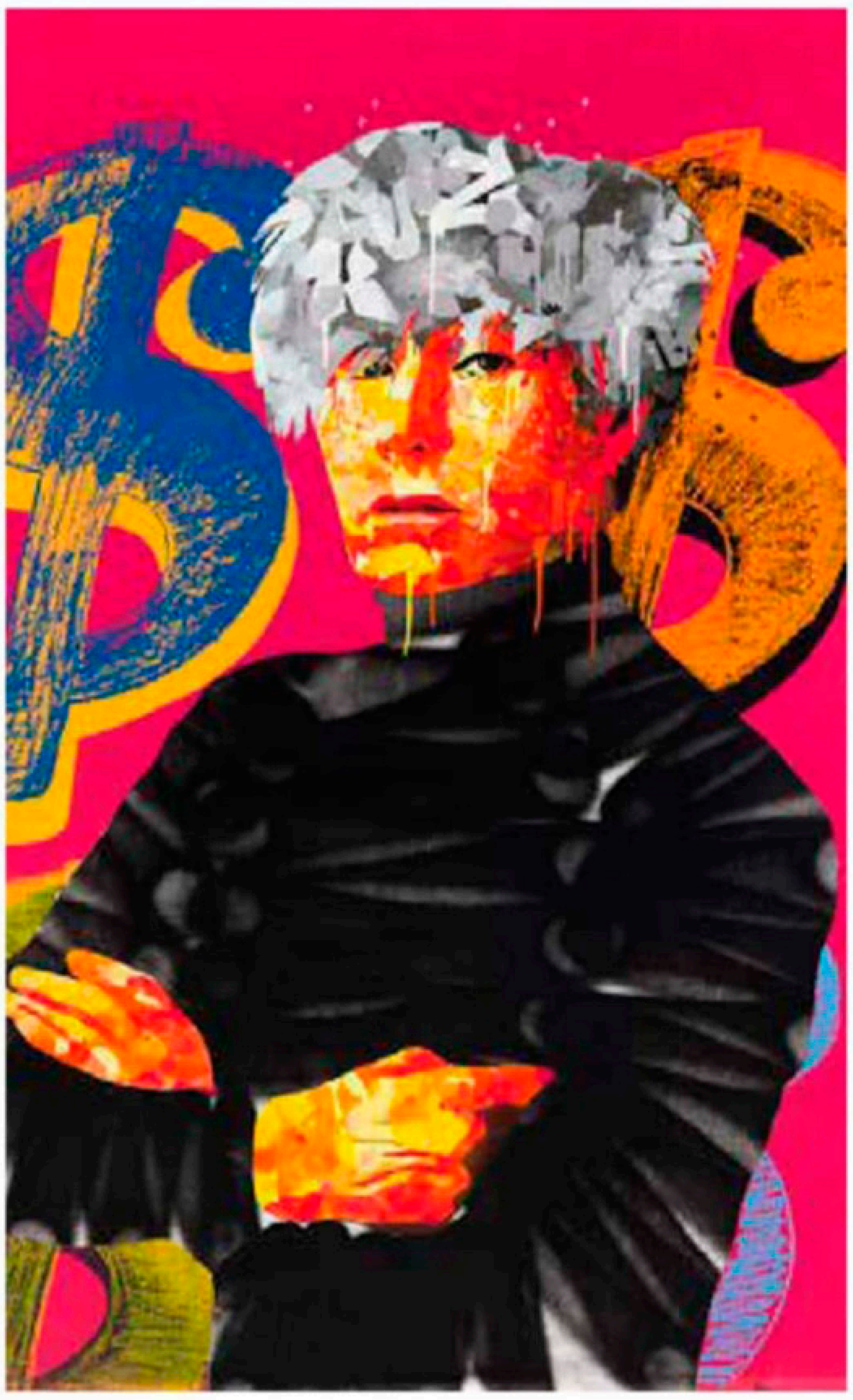
Kongo aka Cyril Phan has never been particular about the surface he leaves his mark on, whether it was a wall, canvas, shop window, trunk, dress, bag, scarf, jewellery, champagne bottle, humidor, car or even an airplane. To Kongo, they were just mediums he employs when he is not multiplying collaborations with French brands like Chanel, Hermès, Richard Mille, Daum and La Cornue to showcase traditional European savoir faire.

The 51-year old French-Vietnamese artist likes the idea of being able to appropriate an everyday object and transform it into a work of art — something that makes life more beautiful.

The early proponent of the Parisian graffiti art scene earned a reputation for his pictorial alphabets that reconciliated painting and writing, he has since soared to new heights by reinterpreting varied universes in a language filled with colours, shapes and letters.

His focus has also shifted to the spotlighting of his Asian heritage as he plans to set up an atelier-showroom in Singapore and a boutique-gallery in Hanoi to highlight age-old Southeast Asian crafts that have influenced his joyful, energetic and optimistic touch.

This writer sits down with Kongo to talk about his artistry during the COVID-19 crisis, giving back to society and his plans for the future.



31 RUE CAMBON

WHAT IS YOUR MOST RECENT PAINTING?

My latest painting is based on a poem by Charles Baudelaire that I reinterpreted called Hymne à la Beauté (Hymn to Beauty), which is part of Les Fleurs du Mal (The Flowers of Evil).

It's a painting that took a lot of time and energy. I always work on several paintings at the same time because I get bored very quickly. Sometimes, when I've advanced well on a painting, I let it "sleep" for a while.

With Hymne à la Beauté, I had started to sketch it last November and I've been at it for a few months. I come back to it regularly — at least a good week or 15 days every month — but there was a moment when I couldn't take it anymore because it's really big.

It's four metres wide, 4.5 metres high and full of tiny letters so it requires a lot of work and time.

HOW DID YOU LIVE OUT THE CONFINEMENT IN FRANCE THAT WAS PUT IN PLACE TO STOP THE SPREAD OF THE CORONAVIRUS?

The first month was a month of forced rest that allowed me to ease off from my hectic pace in 2019. For the second month, I went directly to my studio and all I did was work — especially since I live next to it.

I worked on large formats and drawings, and it was a moment that really inspired me to give back to the medical personnel who were saving thousands of lives with ridiculously little means.

So, I proposed a project to the Paris hospital where I donated a painting to the hospitals of paris — Hospitals of France Foundation — which they auctioned off to raise funds to help these hospitals.

My second initiative was an installation at Lariboisière Hospital to thank the nursing staff directly, which I then made a digigraph of. I'm currently selling it via my website where all profits will be donated to the hospital.

These guys had no masks and wore the same Personal Protective Equipment while treating several people even though they're supposed to change it each time.

That's why I wanted to serve but I felt so helpless. As an artist, I wanted to bring something more so I carried out these actions during the confinement. I also drew and painted a lot. It was even easier to create art because it was inspiring and I was rooted in one place instead of travelling, meeting people for projects or going abroad to exhibit my works.

I was stuck for over two months in my universe developing my e-commerce site and doing things that I wanted to do or that which I could push a little further.

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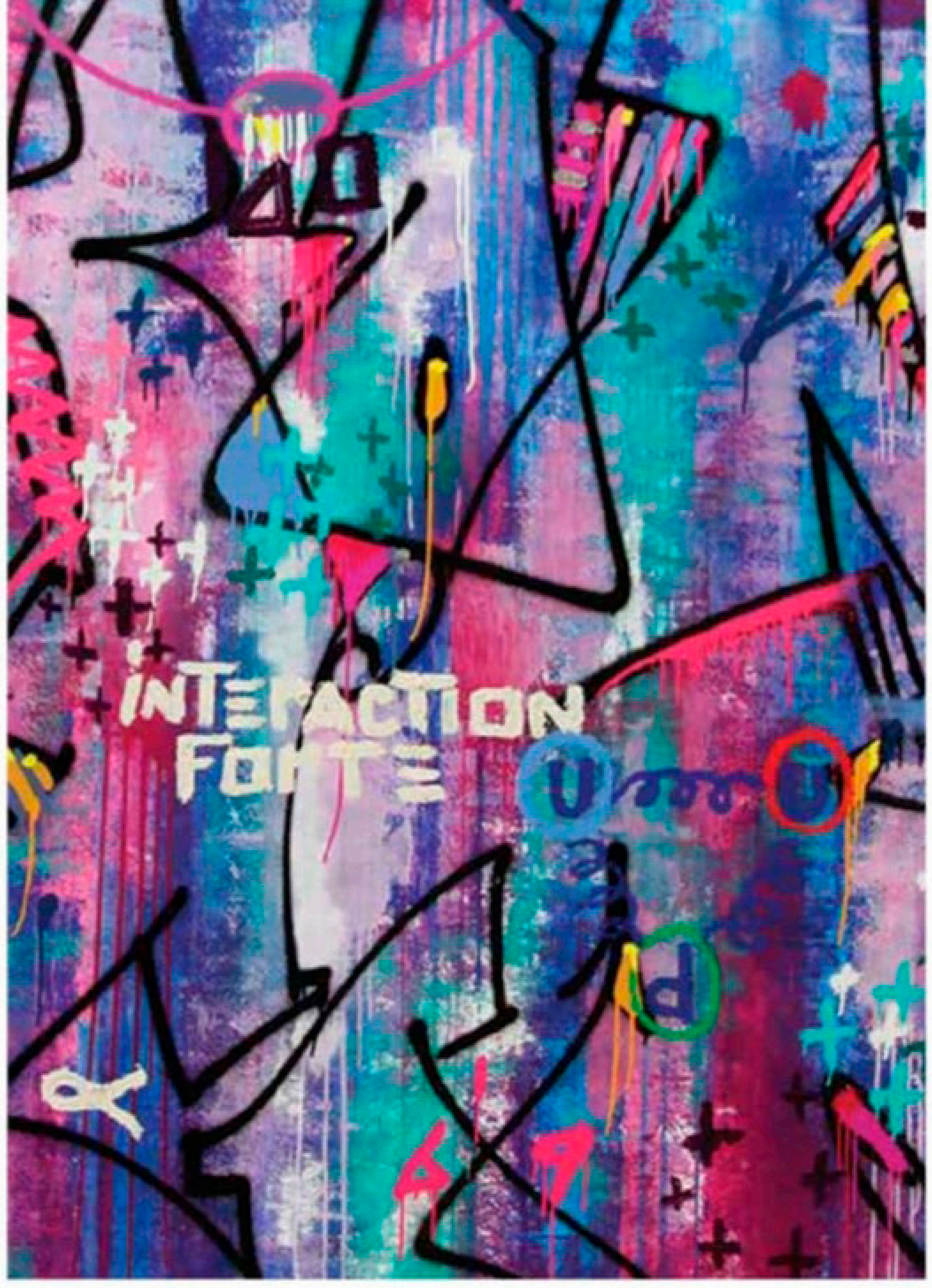

DID THE SUBJECT OF YOUR ARTWORKS CHANGE?

I did a whole series on paper about the present moment called Confinement, where I forced myself to make one drawing per day to crystallise this unique moment. Over several generations, we didn't have the occasion to experience such a global pause.

No country, person, government or law has succeeded in stopping the world like that and there are certainly going to be catastrophic consequences compared to the old world. But in this new world, a lot of reflexes will be created where the planet will also have a real break in terms of pollution and new forms of intensified communication consumption will develop.

Whether the pandemic is a good thing or not, I can't answer. That's how it is, but I'm sure the world of 2021 will not be the same as that of 2019.

WHAT ROLE CAN ARTISTS PLAY IN SUCH A CONTEXT?

In a world of anxiety like the one we're living in, we [as artists] need to offer something that elicits a positive emotion.

For example, when I'm stressed, I like to drink a glass of wine and eat cheese — this is my French side talking. For people to have a painting of a given moment that they put at home which in turn changes the decor, I think it's something that de-stresses them while giving a desire for renewal.

What an artist can offer in such a context is to bring a little beauty into the world and uplift spirits because it is so anxiety-inducing if people watched the news all the time.

HOW DID YOU TRANSLATE RECOGNITION FROM THE STREETS TO ART GALLERIES?

I did it by having a lot of determination but residing in the world of art galleries is not my ultimate aim.

My ultimate aim is continue expressing myself and for my work to be seen by as many people as possible. Also, to always be able to express my art in as many places as possible. Hence, I'm not satisfied with just galleries but however, I'm happy to have recognition and success.

WHEN DID YOUR ALMOST VISCERAL RELATIONSHIP WITH ASIA START?

I am half Asian (my dad is Vietnamese) and therefore I have always been linked to Asia, especially Southeast Asia through half of my family.

I had the chance to travel between Europe, Africa and Asia so I am a true citizen of the world.

YOU DO NOT SPEAK ABOUT COLLABORATIONS WITH BRANDS BUT ABOUT ENCOUNTERS BETWEEN CREATORS FROM DIFFERENT UNIVERSES INSTEAD, WHAT DO YOU MEAN BY THAT?

All the collaborations that I have achieved with these universes have in fact been encounters. I met decision-makers with whom we exchange ideas, which then creates a bridge between our two universes. That's why each collaboration was never done by a marketing team, for example.

Moreover, I refuse 90 per cent of the projects that have been brought to me like this. I think that the success of a collaboration first comes through an encounter that is authenticic while having integrity in its creation — then comes the sales or marketing work.

That's why I don't like to talk about collaborations with a brand because above all, it is the vision of someone. This vision will take on the dimension of a brand but ultimately it's the consumers who see us as brands, not ourselves. For us, it's a savoir faire that we have and that we want to convey onto everything.

In fact, the idea is to get out of our comfort zone and push our respective universes further. That's why I don't like the name "street art" because it puts limits on one while confining him to the street. Yes, it's in my DNA and yes, I spent almost 30 years creating works in the street. In fact, borders do not exist for me in fact and that's why I don't dabble in street art fairs or group exhibitions.

It's not that I denigrate it but I find that it pulls us down and my interest over the past 10 years is to bring my art precisely to universes that that surprise and above all, with an aim for excellence.

For me, graffiti has always aimed for excellence. When I painted huge walls with my MAC collective, we had a positive form of competition with other artists and we wanted to impress them. I've continued with the same energy but I now create bridges with the universes of watchmaking, silks, crystals and especially traditional savoir faire.

WE HAVE SEEN YOU IN JAKARTA, SINGAPORE, HONG KONG AND SHANGHAI, WHAT WAS YOUR BEST EXPERIENCE AND FAVOURITE CAPITAL IN ASIA?

Each experience is magnificent. I have a special fondness for Singapore, which impresses me by the modernity of its vision.

The country is managed like a company and everyone follows the same path. I find it interesting as a Parisian as everything is all over the place in Paris. Sometimes it feels good to have some boundaries for the common good and Singapore impresses me a lot with regards to that. I find that there is a quality of life there which is very interesting.

Asia impresses me enormously — they are progressive, they evolve rapidly every day, they're determined and they're categorical.

WHAT WAS IT LIKE OPENING A POP-UP STUDIO IN SINGAPORE AFTER RUNNING A SUCCESSFUL ONE IN 2017 THAT WAS LOCATED IN ONE OF THE MOST EXPENSIVE NEIGHBOURHOODS IN PARIS?

In November 2018, I went to see Kevin Seah in Singapore and I told him about the experience of my ephemeral workshop on Rue François 1er in the 8th arrondissement.

He asked me it if I would consider doing it in Singapore and I told him that firstly, I didn't have a place and secondly, I didn't want to do it with a gallery. He told me to look next door where there were available premises and introduced me to the landlord of The Mill, Roy Teo, who left me the space for a month to create a pop-up studio which had the same concept as the one in Paris.

However, it is no longer ephemeral as I kept it in the end to set up my showroom-atelier in Singapore. I feel good here and I'm planning to settle there to create my works to continue my Asian adventure.

It will be a private atelier-showroom that is not open to the public and where people can visit only by appointment.

The original story first appeared on Art Republik and is abbreviated.

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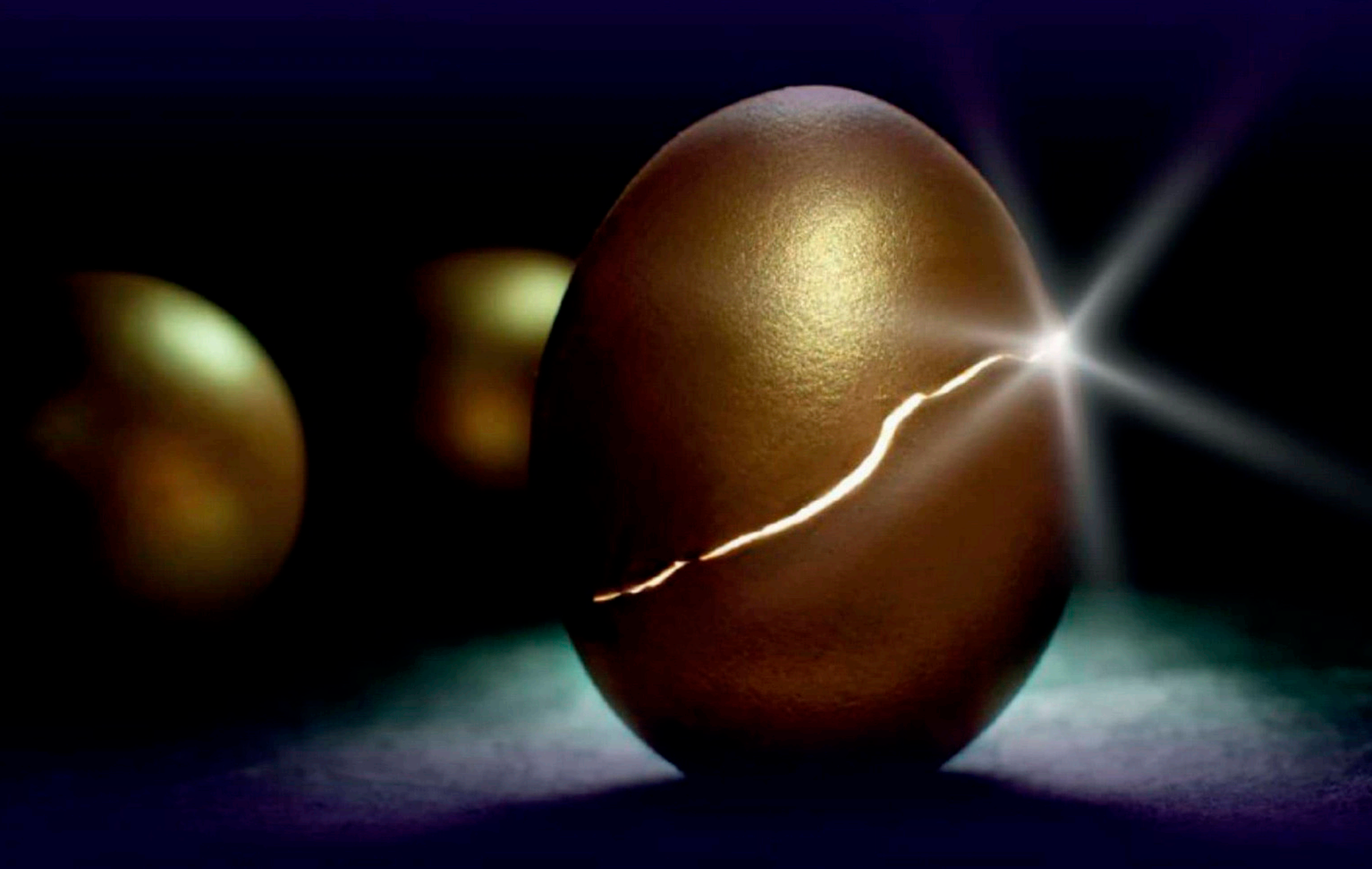

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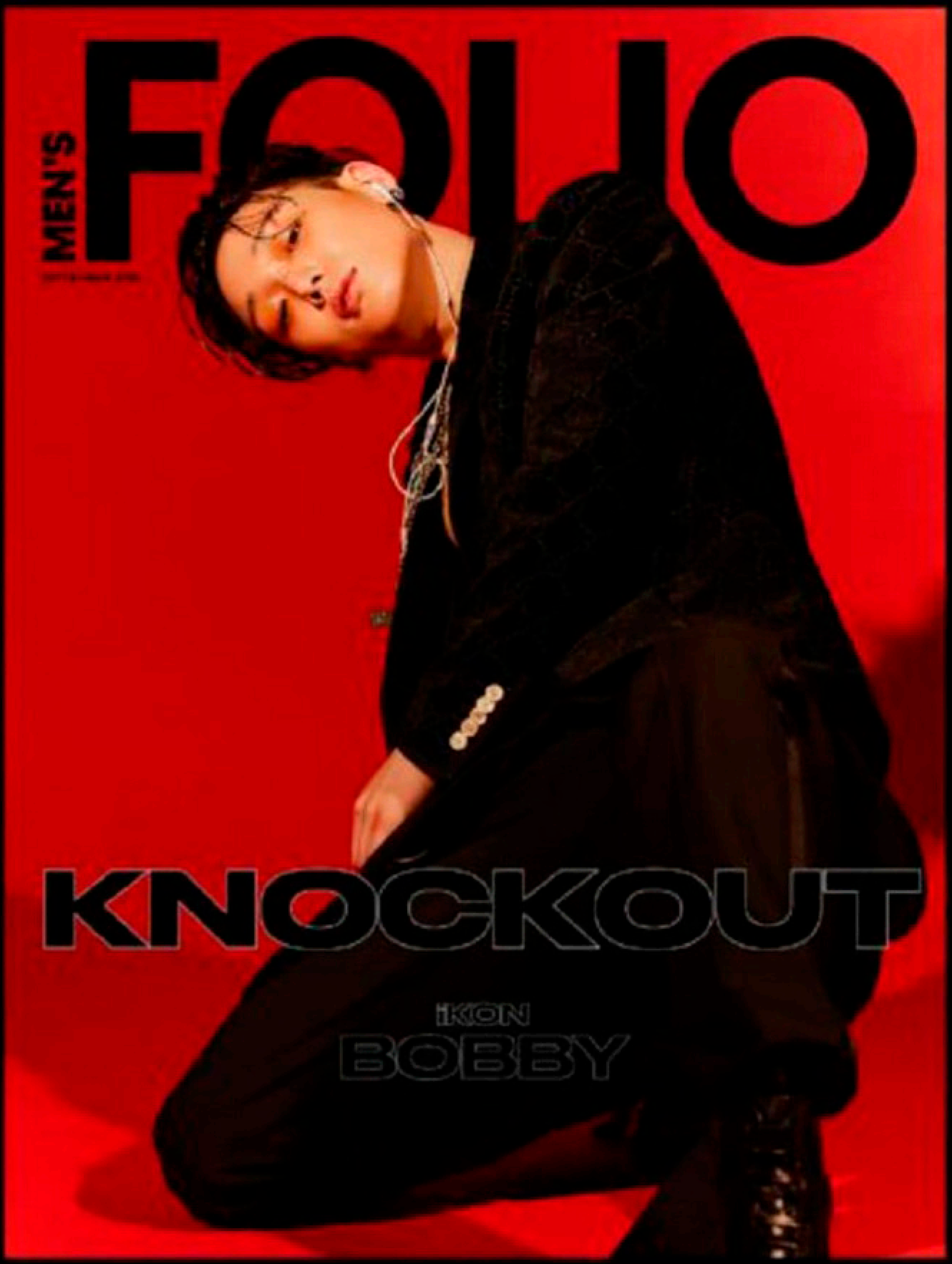

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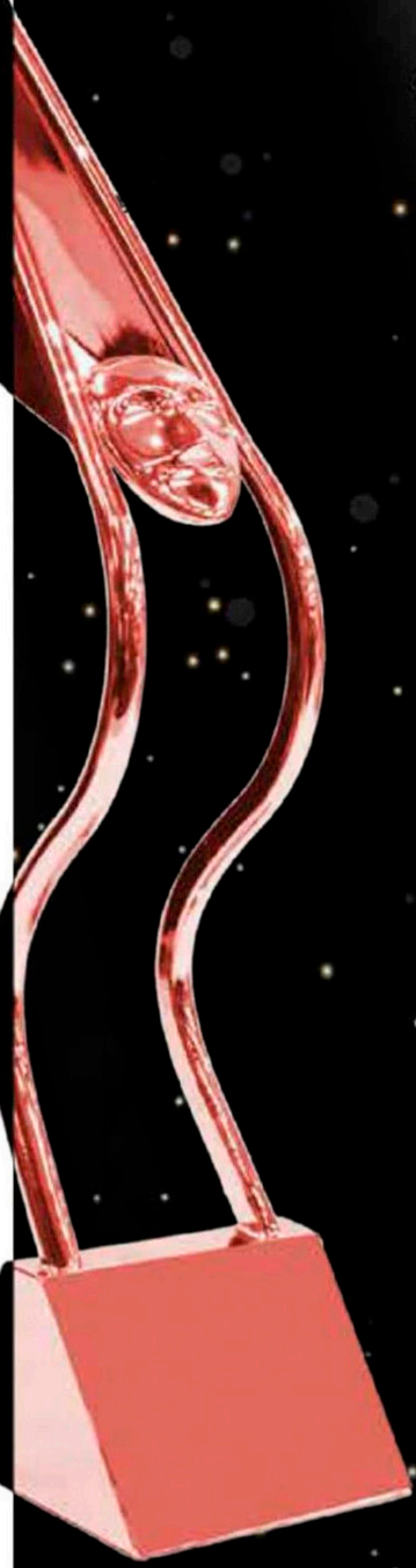

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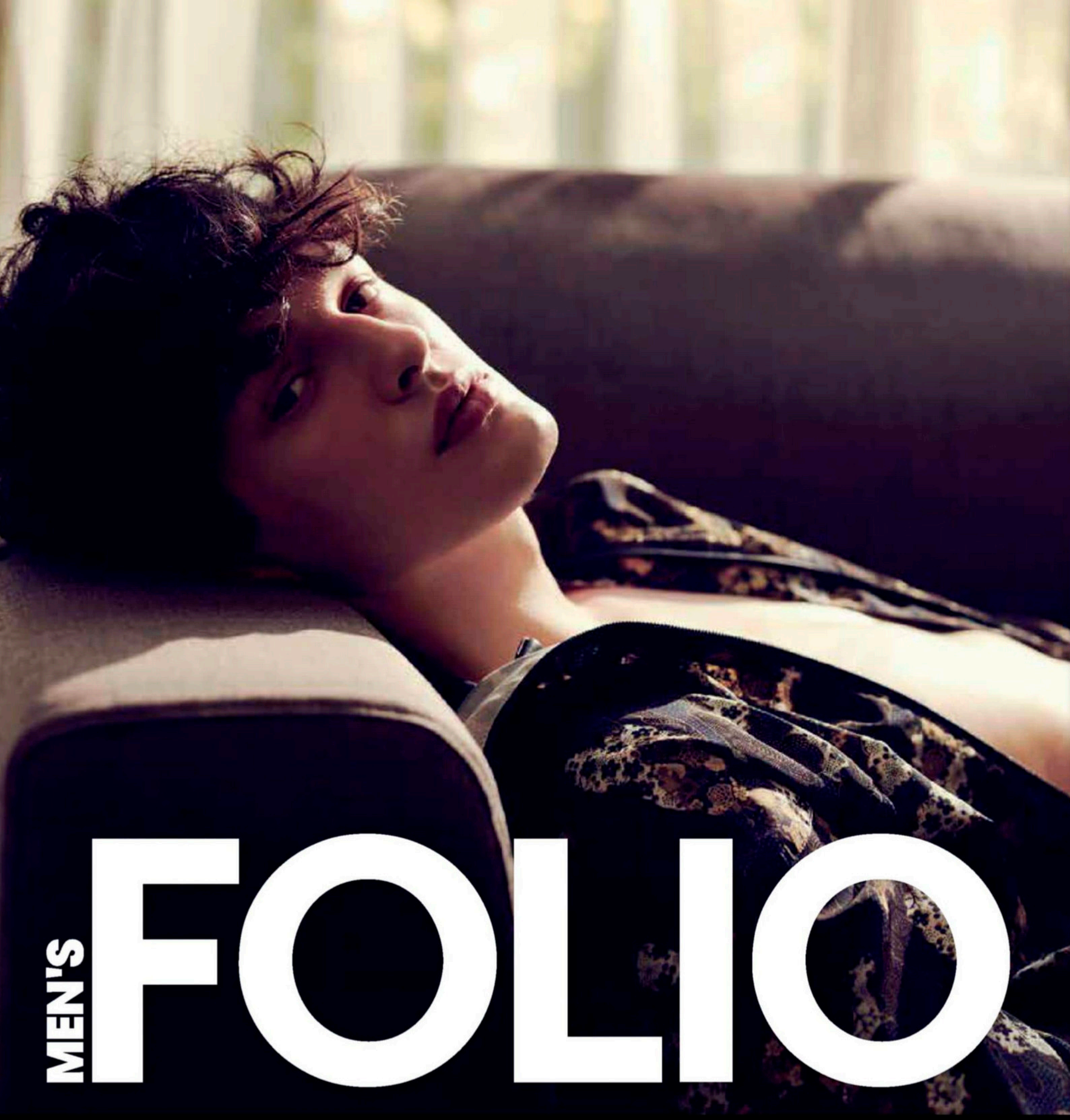

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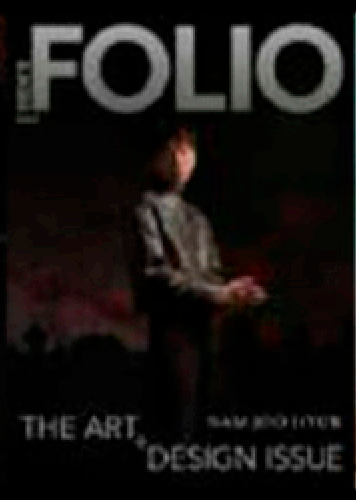
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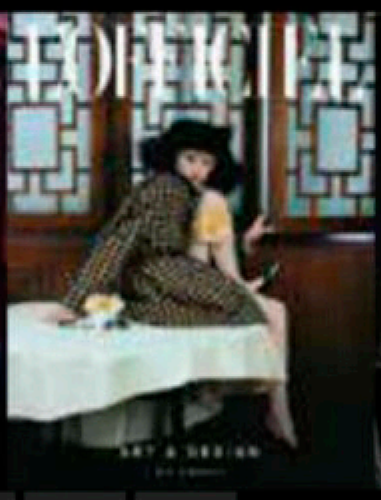
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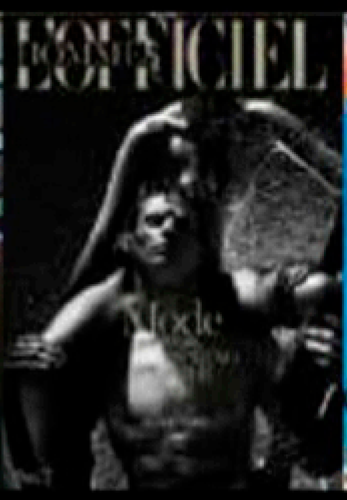

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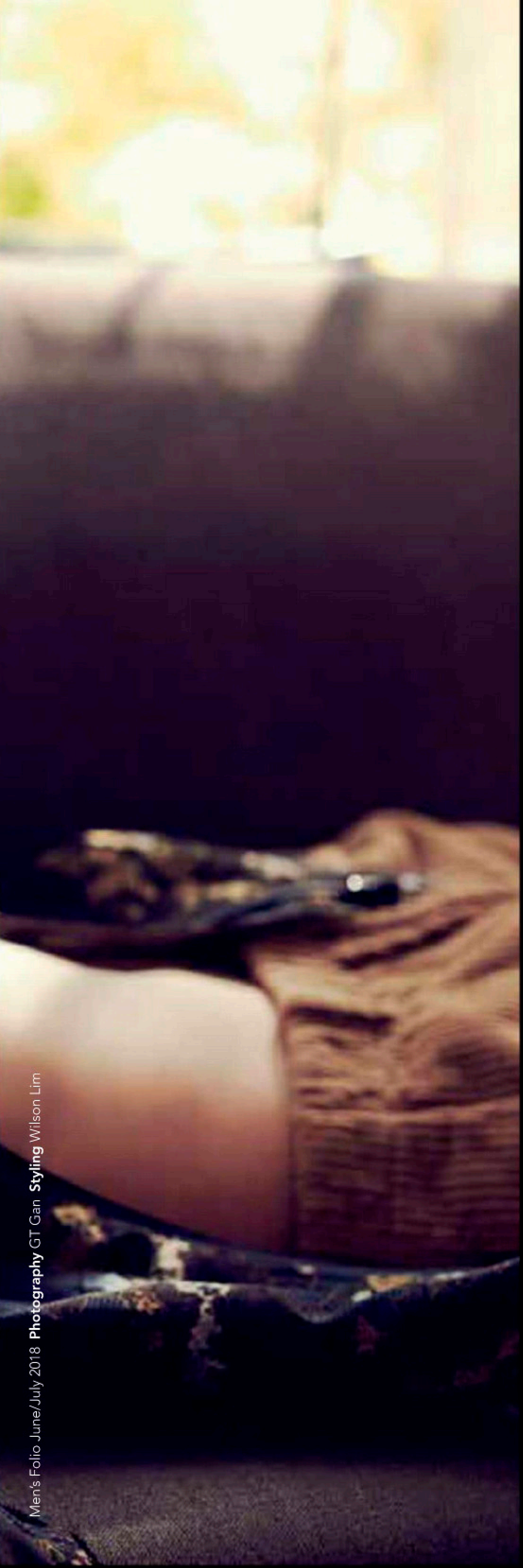

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COUP DE GRÂCE

Cause I want it all / Or nothing at all / There's nowhere left to fall / When you reach the bottom / It's now or never. American pop-boyband, O-Town was singing about the zero-sum game when it came to romantic relationships but the chorus of their 2001 hit, All Or Nothing could be said to encapsulate the present cancel culture movement. A tidbit of offensive content could result in a loss of income, death threats and police reports being lodged — all through the omnipresent form of doxxing. The originators of the term — omnipresent — would have never imagined it being used to describe the art of cancellation via social media. Boomer parents have warned of the repercussions of ill-behaviour with "later police catch" (which amounted to mostly threats) while millennial parents would do so with "later someone Stomp you". Being "exposed" on social media is enough to stop any insert-career-aspiration (we are not falling into this trap) in its tracks because being infamous does not bring the dough home. Regardless, there is no grey area when it comes to social ills like racism and sexism but it sure gets hazy when the cancelled tries to climb out of the mare's nest. Justification or redemption? Let us call forth the social justice warriors!

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